

16700 Norwalk Boulevard, Cerritos, CA 90703

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ABC Education Foundation Announces Enhanced 2021-2022 SEED

October 25, 2021 Cerritos, CA—The ABC Unified School District Education Foundation is proud to announce a new version of their annual School Essentials for Education Drive, or SEED, to assist homeless, foster, and financially disadvantaged students. In past years this program has provided backpacks with school supplies, distributed to schools throughout the district to provide to students in need. The 2021-2022 modified SEED program will provide specific items and supplies to students in need based on requests received directly through an online form by school administrators, counselors, and teachers. The new program allows very specific requests when needs are identified throughout the school year and also provides specific support for social-emotional learning.

"We know there are students who have been disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, and this is our opportunity to help them," said ABC Education Foundation Chair Joseph Porter, III. "There isn't a part of our district that the pandemic hasn't touched, and this is how we can support those students with the greatest needs."

The ABC Foundation will collect funds through SEED to address students' needs identified at ABCUSD schools during the 2021-2022 school year. The ABC Education Foundation will still accept donated items, like backpacks, but the Foundation seeks financial contributions to help target student needs for school success. To date, the Foundation has supported over 16 individual requests for items as specific as jackets and shoes for students as well as requests for fidget toys and other social-emotional support items for schools throughout the district.

"SEED allows us to meet students' individual needs, rather than a one-size-fits-all approach," said ABC Education Foundation President Heather Summers. "Together, we can make sure all ABCUSD students have the tools they need to thrive."

Donations may be sent by mail to:

ABC Education Foundation 16700 Norwalk Boulevard Cerritos, CA 90703

Checks should be made payable to the ABC Education Foundation with "SEED Program" indicated on the memo line. Donations may also be made online at abcedfoundation.org/donate.

About the ABC Education Foundation

The ABC Education Foundation was founded in 2011 to support ABCUSD programs in jeopardy due to budget cuts. From inception through 2018, the Foundation has funded over \$360,000 in programs for ABC schools, the majority given to schools through an annual grant program as well as their annual school backpack initiative. The Foundation also helped secure \$3.5 million in additional grants for the district in previous years.

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