



Teacher Survey Results

Adopt A Class would not be possible without the support of our teachers. Because teachers spend so much time with students, they are often the best gauge of the success of the Adopt A Class program. From measuring the improvements in students' social skills to tracking the progress in students' writing, teachers help us understand the full impact of Adopt A Class.

The following are the results from the Adopt A Class Teacher Survey, which was given to teachers in early 2009. To see the full report, please visit our website at www.aacfoundation.com and click on "Testimonials."

- 93% of teachers report that Adopt A Class has a positive

impact on students' social skills.

- 90% of teachers report that AAC has a positive impact on students' written communication.
- 72% of teachers report that AAC has a positive impact on students' school attendance.
- 90% of teachers feel supported by their Adopting Company.
- 62% of teachers report that their Adopting Company has contributed to their classroom by providing books, school supplies, or other classroom materials.
- 95% of teachers would recommend the AAC program to a teacher at another school.

Thank you teachers, for everything you do everyday to shape the lives of young people!

Welcome NEW Adopters

Bethesda North Same Day Surgery

The Delhi Divas

Eisen Marketing Group

Ernst & Young LLP

Federal Home Loan Bank

P&G Global Market Development

Robbins, Kelly, Patterson & Tucker

telestar MEDIA

Towne Properties

Ulmer & Berne LLP

The Urology Group-Business Center

The Urology Group-Surgery Center

Adopter Field Trip with Gerner & Kearns

AAC 3rd GRADERS VISIT THE "HALLWAYS OF HISTORY" IN NEWPORT, KENTUCKY

On March 27, 2009 some of the youngest residents of Newport, Kentucky met the city's founding father, General James Taylor.

Gerner & Kearns Co., LPA adopted a 3rd grade class at Newport's Fourth Street Elementary School. Gerner & Kearns has their executive headquarters in General Taylor's former home and the Adopt A Class volunteers thought a tour of the General's Mansion was a field trip that would benefit their adopted students.

The tour included a walk from the school to the Mansion, a tour of the 1842 building, a



pizza lunch, a game of Bingo based on facts they learned during the tour and prizes for everyone.

The class learned about the history of Newport and General Taylor and his family, as well as the history of the home

itself. The group photo was taken on the front steps of the Taylor Mansion before everyone had to get back to work; school work for the kids and the firm's work for the employees, but not before both sides learned at least a little something about each other.

Five Questions for Michele Schuster



Each newsletter will feature an outstanding person or organization who is going above and beyond to make a difference in the Foundation and in the lives of students. This month's interview is with Michele Schuster, who is the Adopt A Class Business Coordinator for MSA. Pictured are students from MSA's Adopted class at Ethel M. Taylor Academy in Millvale.

1. Could you tell us a little bit about yourself?

I am a mother of two grown children, Catherine, who will be graduating from Medical School in May, and David, who will be finishing his Industrial Design program at DAAP in June. I have a masters degree in counseling and have been working in community mental health providing school-based treatment to students for the past 10 years. I was a very active volunteer in my kids' schools and have always enjoyed being a school setting. I am an avid reader, a fairly accomplished cook, and I love to sit on the beach. I am a big Reds fan and go to as many games as I can.

2. How did you get involved in Adopt A Class?

My husband Mike met Bill through Leadership Cincinnati. He had been looking for a way to get involved in a public

school, but many of the other opportunities required more of a time commitment than he felt he and his business could offer.

3. What does your role as Adopt A Class Business Coordinator entail?

I interface with the teachers and coordinate needs, collect and distribute the pen pal letters, organize the tutoring schedule (one hour monthly for interested staff members), and planned the Christmas party and Spring Outing (an architectural walking tour of downtown Cincinnati).

4. What positive changes do you see the AAC program making?

From the teachers, I have heard how much the students look forward to their pen pal letters and tutoring with MSA staff and the extra motivation that having this relationship has given the students. On our end, I can see how the experience has helped MSA's staff to learn first hand about the realities of an urban school district and the impact that poverty has on students. I think it has made the needs of this population more real to them, but they have also had the experience of making a positive change in the lives of students. I have always believed that we can make a difference one child at a time, and this program illustrates that idea beautifully, giving our staff a sense of accomplishment and putting a face on the need.

5. Is there anything you would like to say to other adopters or to teachers?

I would encourage adopters and teachers/schools to welcome this program into their businesses and schools. It is a painless and easy way to get involved in our community.

Do You Know Someone Who Would Make a Great Adopter?

Since January we have added twelve new Adopters. Each of these Adopters was the result of a referral. With over 60 classes still to be adopted the need for referrals is more important than ever. We all know someone that would enjoy being involved. It's as easy as picking up the phone and introducing Adopt A Class, asking if they will allow someone to come explain the program in greater detail and then calling (513) 244-8075 or emailing Bill Burwinkel at bill.b@aacfoundation.com. Portland referrals should be sent to Janice Leonetti at (503) 635-0203 or adopta-class@comcast.net. Before we know it we'll have Adopters for all our less fortunate children.

News From Portland

We were privileged to celebrate the Portland Adopt A Class Coordinators at a breakfast on April 2nd at the University Club in downtown Portland, Oregon. With the economy as tough as it is, and with company re-organizations and downsizings taking place, the stories that Adopters shared that morning were of joy, hope and celebration. The beauty of the Adopt A Class program is that it really doesn't cost much to participate. Spending just a little time with a student in a Title I school goes a long way. The results are priceless (but those of you reading this already know that)! You see the results of the program in the smiles on the children's faces and the warmth you feel in your hearts each time you visit or receive a letter.

Also in attendance at the Portland Celebration Breakfast were Andre Jackson, Portland Public Schools Manager; Barbara Rommel, David Douglas School District Superintendent; and Rolando Florez, Mill Park Elementary Principal.



Portland Adopter Mila Buckland with students from her Adopted class at James John Elementary.