



## Foundation for Madison's Public Schools

### **Overview / Value Proposition: Proposed Teacher Supply Program**

#### **Overview:**

The Foundation for Madison's Public Schools (FMPS) will further invest in the success of Madison public schools by developing, launching, and sustaining a resource center that provides materials and resources for Madison Metropolitan School District (MMSD) K – 12 public school teachers.

#### **The Market:**

There are 5,500 staff including 2,700 teachers. that work for the Madison Metropolitan School District. Market research including teacher surveys and focus groups show that there is widespread interest and support for the creation of a teachers' resource center. Ninety percent (90%) of Madison Teachers, Inc. members surveyed supported the idea.

#### **Competitive Advantages:**

The program's competitive advantages include that there is no such center in Madison, Wisconsin. While many efforts exist to celebrate "going back to school" and to deliver materials to one specific school, no comprehensive approach is currently available to support teachers throughout the entire year.

#### **Value to Our Community:**

A Foundation-hosted teacher supply program would offer community members another way to support our 50 Madison public schools. While not everyone can provide an outright financial contribution, they could potentially donate materials. Area companies and convention centers would have a better option than throwing away unwanted or discarded materials. For instance, a local law firm recently donated nearly 700 three-ring binders through FMPS to MMSD schools, a much better option than tossing them into a dumpster. Well-resourced teachers are also better equipped to teach our schoolchildren and to prepare them for productive future lives.

#### **Value to Our Public Schools:**

A dedicated ongoing supply program would support a much greater percentage of staff and would provide needed financial relief for staff who spend up to \$1,000 annually of their own money on classroom supplies. Furthermore, a successful program, which meets the needs of this primary audience, would provide MMSD with a potentially effective recruitment and retention tool. The teacher supply program would not just be a place to receive supplies but also a place for teachers and staff to gather, share best practices, exchange ideas, and receive a morale boost. The program is modeled on a past MMSD program, active in the late 1970s and through the 1980s.

#### **About FMPS:**

Incorporated in 2001, FMPS is the only nonprofit dedicated solely to Madison public schools. In our brief history, we have contributed more than \$12 million to our public schools; built nearly \$8 million in assets; and have offered the community high quality programs such as our Adopt-a-School program; A Principal Experience; the School Endowment Program; and a wide array of fiscal services to donors, schools, MMSD central office, parent teacher organizations, and booster clubs.