



**Contact** Lesley Range-Stanton  
**Telephone** 469.752.8094  
**Cell** 469.360.7552  
**Email** lesley.range-stanton@pisd.edu  
**Website** www.pisd.edu/communications

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**January 31, 2018**

## **THE PLANO ISD EDUCATION FOUNDATION'S CORE STORE JOINS KIDS IN NEED FOUNDATION NATIONAL NETWORK OF RESOURCE CENTERS**

**PLANO, TX – January 31, 2018.** The Plano ISD Education Foundation is pleased to announce that its CORE (Classroom Resources for Education) Store has become one of the newest members of the Kids In Need Foundation National Network, a national nonprofit organization dedicated to providing free school supplies to economically disadvantaged schoolchildren.

With the recent addition of the CORE Store and a program called Pencils & Paper in Rochester, New York, the Kids In Need Foundation National Network has grown to 41 centers. Inclusion in the network is by evaluation only and is based on a center's stability and efficiency, among other criteria.

"The CORE Store and Pencils & Paper are two centers making an impact in their communities," said Dave Smith, executive director of the Kids In Need Foundation. "Their service models closely align with that originally designed by Kids In Need, and we are proud to be able to help them serve students most in need."

As an affiliate, the CORE Store is eligible to receive school supplies donated to the Kids In Need Foundation by manufacturers and retailers for redistribution to high need students, teachers and schools. Since the organization's founding in 1995, Kids In Need has distributed more than \$900 million dollars in school supplies to the centers in the Network. Combined with the products donated to the individual centers locally, the Network provides school and classroom supplies to 5.4 million students and nearly 200,000 teachers annually.

"Kids In Need opens the door to a broader supply network for the CORE Store," said Kristin Alexander, executive director for the Plano ISD Education Foundation. "This allows us to be even more prepared to assist our teachers in helping to close opportunity gaps for students."

### **About the CORE Store**

The CORE Store's mission is to help all students in the Plano Independent School District succeed in the classroom by equipping teachers with free classroom resources. The CORE Store is an initiative of the Plano ISD Education Foundation, a 501(c)(3) charitable organization founded in 1993. Since September 2016, the CORE Store has served 44,000 students, 1,406 teachers, 67 schools (94%) and has distributed school supplies valued at \$220,000. For more information, check out visit [www.pisd.edu/corestore](http://www.pisd.edu/corestore).

### **About Plano ISD Education Foundation**

The Plano ISD Education Foundation – <http://www.pisd.edu/foundation> – is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization with the mission to generate private support for priority projects identified by Plano ISD not funded by tax dollars. The Foundation provides grants to educators, programs that support academic enrichment to Plano ISD students, emergency assistance for teachers and staff members in crisis, as well as programs aimed at recruiting and retaining quality teachers. Since 1993, the Foundation has generated private support for priority projects for which tax dollars are not available. Since 2000, almost \$9 million has been gifted to Plano ISD by the Foundation to enhance student learning; recruit, retain and recognize the very best teachers; or address critical needs of students and families so that all students can be successful. To learn more about the Plano ISD Education Foundation, call 469-752-8141. For additional information about the Foundation or to make a donation, visit the foundation website at [www.pisdeducationfoundation.org](http://www.pisdeducationfoundation.org) or call (469) 752-8272.

### **About the Kids In Need Foundation**

The Kids In Need Foundation's mission is to ensure that every child is prepared to learn and succeed in the classroom by providing free school supplies nationally to students most in need. The Kids In Need Foundation, a national 501(c)(3) charitable organization founded in 1995, has distributed over \$900 million in school supplies, directly benefiting 5.4 million students and nearly 200,000 teachers annually. For more information, visit [KINF.org](http://KINF.org) or Facebook, Twitter and Instagram: @KidsInNeed

###