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March 16, 2017

Hello AUSD Community!

This month, we want to spotlight another amazing funding group. SchoolCARE. In 2001, in response to state budget cuts, a group of parents and community members created SchoolCARE. Through SchoolCARE funding, AUSD is able to hire staff to provide services for our students. Our dedicated SchoolCARE volunteers work tirelessly to raise funds annually, and this year, SchoolCARE has pledged over \$260,000 to the district.

These much needed funds support our Transitional Kindergarten program, provide funding for field trips and in-school enrichment for the Albany Children's Center, support programs at our elementary schools such as music, art, chess, and noon-time activities, and provide funding for our Library Technicians.

Albany Middle School gets additional Counselors, a Library Technician, and funding for the Writer Coach Connection, which assists all 8th graders with coaches helping them with their writing project.

Albany High School gets funding for 3 elective sections! That means more choices for our students! Albany High also receives a portion of a Career and College Coordinator and longer hours for the library.

All of this is critical to the quality of our AUSD fabulous education! SchoolCARE is beginning their big push of publicity for fundraising this coming week. SchoolCARE values community input about school site needs and priorities, and encourages parents, students, and staff to respond to the funding surveys being distributed this week.

So, when you see their flyers or when a volunteer calls you, please consider giving generously to SchoolCARE what you can. All the proceeds directly benefit our Albany students!

Thank you.

Val Williams, Superintendent