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SUPERINTENDENT

CAMDEN CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

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PRESS RELEASE

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Superintendent Rouhanifard Encourages Camden Teachers to Bring New Resources to their Classrooms Thanks to \$130,000 Donation

Rouhanifard applauds teachers leading fundraising efforts, and encourages more staff to take advantage of matching funds campaign by posting classroom projects on DonorsChoose.org

September 14, 2017 – Office of the Superintendent, Camden, NJ – As students and teachers settle into another year of learning in Camden schools, the Superintendent is asking educators to take advantage of \$130,000 in matching funds for classroom projects posted on DonorsChoose.org.

Superintendent Paymon Rouhanifard made the announcement this morning to educators and students in Mr. Thomas Levy's high school classroom. A Woodrow Wilson High School special education teacher, Mr. Levy has raised over \$45,000 in classroom resources through DonorsChoose.org. His classroom is an example of the transformational power DonorsChoose projects have had on classroom resources in the District. From a classroom library where students can build their comprehension and guided reading skills to a 21st century workspace for students to study quietly in a "home away from home environment," every inch of Mr. Levy's room is designed to optimize his students' academic and social success.

Thanks to a generous donation from Townsend Press, DonorsChoose.org is offering a *Double Your Impact Match Offer* to all teachers in Camden City public schools. Through the years, DonorsChoose.org has helped hundreds of Camden teachers fund projects to bring their students modern resources that enhance learning and build positive relationships between students and staff. At the press conference, Rouhanifard celebrated five District teachers who've raised the most money for classroom resources through DonorsChoose.org. They are:

- Thomas Levy, special education teacher, Woodrow Wilson High School
82 funded projects, equaling \$45,183.95 in classroom resources
- Joseph Inverso, special education teacher, Thomas H Dudley Elementary School
43 funded projects, equaling \$18,235.86 in classroom resources
- Karen Borrelli-Luke, health sciences teacher, Dr. Charles E Brimm Medical Arts High School
42 funded projects, equaling \$32,535.24 in classroom resources
- Mary D'Agati, kindergarten teacher, Catto Family School
35 funded projects, equaling \$28,131.94 in classroom resources
- Emily Osborne, art teacher, Woodrow Wilson High School
25 funded projects, equaling \$18,254.93 in classroom resources



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“Because of the generosity of Townsend Press and countless individual DonorsChoose donors, hundreds of Camden classrooms are equipped with technology, resources, and project-based learning opportunities to help our students achieve. I applaud Mr. Levy and all of the District’s top DonorsChoose teachers for finding creative ways to bring innovative instruction in their classrooms and give their students the best possible education, day in and day out,” said Superintendent Rouhanifard. “I am inspired by the energy and drive Mr. Levy shows for his students, and I encourage more of our teachers to log onto DonorsChoose and start a project that can transform their classroom.”

Camden teachers can take advantage by posting projects totaling \$1,000 or less on DonorsChoose.org. After the teacher secures half of the total cost of the DonorsChoose.org project, the donation will pay off the remaining balance of the project costs.

“Because this donation is a match, we need support from the community and the region to make the most of this important funding,” said Superintendent Rouhanifard. “Thanks in advance to all the educators, community members, and anonymous donors who contribute to Camden teachers’ projects every day.”

To date, Camden City schools have seen over 1,000 projects fully funded on DonorsChoose.org.

About DonorsChoose.org

Founded in 2000, DonorsChoose.org makes it easy for anyone to help a classroom in need. At this nonprofit website, teachers at half of all the public schools in America have created project requests and more than a million people have donated \$342 million to projects that inspire them. All told, over 15 million students—most from low-income communities, and many in disaster-stricken areas—have received books, art supplies, field trips, technology and other resources that they need to learn.



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