

## FAQs ABOUT IPSF

### How Does IPSF Use My Donation?

IPSF works with IUSD in a collaborative relationship to determine funding priorities. Since 1996, our efforts have provided funding for district- wide programs such as:

- Parent Portal
- Auto-Dialer (how you get up-to-date information, via telephone, from your school)
- Art, Music, Science and Math
- Class Size Support
- Afterschool Classroom Enrichment courses
- Middle and High School College Prep Seminars
- Summer Enrichment Classes
- High School Writing Project
- Classroom grants for teachers
- Nurses, health clerks and health curriculum
- Instrument Rental program- proceeds go back to music programs
- Instructional and Counseling Support in grades 4-12
- Class size reduction in 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 9<sup>th</sup> grades

### If IPSF Raises Funds For Classroom Support, How Will That Impact MY Child?

Every dollar will help support classrooms that have larger population. Your principal uses the funds for teaching support in your child's classroom.

### How will the funds raised for Classroom Support be used?

The monies donated are to be used for Classroom Support. How each school decides to utilize their allotted funds is decided by the Irvine Unified School District Board of Education and Administration. These decisions will be made by IUSD according to the amount raised by IPSF and the timeline they have published at [www.iusd.org](http://www.iusd.org). **100%** of the funds donated to IPSF until March 1st will go directly to IUSD for this purpose.

IPSF is responding to the budget challenges facing all 27,000 students by launching a 5-Week Campaign to raise funds for Classroom Support.

#### **Dollars raised will impact every school in the district:**

IPSF is underwriting the cost of this fundraising effort, so that **100 percent** of the funds collected until March 1st will be used to lessen the impacts of class-size increases. Specifically, these dollars will go straight to the schools, which will be empowered to provide direct support in the form of classroom aides and additional teaching hours.

Unfortunately, there isn't much time to act. Because IUSD and the Board of Education are facing critical budgetary deadlines, 100 percent of the funding must be in place by March 2.

Remember that the Irvine Public Schools Foundation is the only organization with the resources to impact every school in our district. We encourage you to get involved today!

### What Is The Impact Of My Support?

- By supporting IPSF, your child will have more opportunities-better programs, a better education, and a greater opportunity to excel in life.
- Your child will benefit through every school they attend in Irvine: Elementary, Middle and High School. Our funds are distributed equitably among all schools.

## **Who/What is IPSF and why isn't IUSD asking for donations directly?**

IPSF is the only not-for-profit whose sole mission is to raise money and support enrichment activities for Irvine Unified schools. IPSF dollars and volunteers impact children at every school and every grade level every day. The Irvine Unified School District is highly effective when it comes to educating children, but it would be very expensive and inefficient for IUSD to invest in an infrastructure and staff to receive and process donations and run enrichment activities on the scale of IPSF. Because of IPSF, more of the dollars that parents give flow directly to your child's school – and they are tax deductible to you.

## **Why should I pay money out of my own pocket to fund PUBLIC education?**

Irvine schools are historically among the lowest funded public schools in the United States, but our schools are among the best in the country academically. This is due to the efforts of parents and teachers who work tirelessly to support children in classrooms. The state of California has admitted that it will not fund schools at a level that will ensure a superior education for our children. Therefore, if we in Irvine want superior local public schools, we must invest our own time and money to keep schools strong.

**One other meaningful reason to support education in Irvine is for the simple fact that outstanding schools means higher property values for all Irvine residents - even those with no children in the school district.**

## **How do I know my donation will help "my school" and "my child"? At least if I donate to the school PTA I know the money will stay in my child's school.**

IPSF supports all 27,000 students of IUSD and all 33 schools. We believe in equity for all students and when we support a program we want all schools to benefit.

In 2008-2009 IPSF donated a total of \$991,000 to support students in the classrooms. The funds were used by IUSD in the following ways:

- \* Teacher support in larger elementary classrooms by supporting salaries for aides.
- \* Providing extra teacher hours in middle schools and high schools.

Specific breakdowns of how each school benefited from this support can be obtained by contacting your principal or IPSF staff member [Cheryl Braun](#) and will be posted on the IPSF website later this week.

Supporting your school's PTA is important and if you are not a member, we urge you to become one and to support programs at your child's school as generously as you can. However, PTAs cannot directly hire staff, only supplement a limited number hours. The Irvine Public Schools Foundation is the only organization that has the ability to provide funds to hire staff.

## **How Does IPSF Raise Money?**

- Annual Direct Mail Campaign
- 365 Campaign (\$1 per day)
- Businesses, corporations and foundations
- Legacy Partners (Major gifts)
- Innovative Campaigns like the Annual IPSF Raffle
- Grants
- Social Enterprise Programs (Instrument Rental, Summer Enrichment Academy)

The cuts the district faces will affect every child at every grade level in every school. The more donors who participate – at whatever level – the more we help lessen the effects of the cuts.

## **What Donation Amount Does IPSF Need?**

ANY donation amount would be greatly appreciated. However, if every IUSD family gave just \$1.00 per day per child, \$365.00 per year, we could raise \$9.8 million.

## Why Are Your Programs So Important To IUSD?

IPSF is unique among other foundations because we directly provide programs for students. If it were not for IPSF, these programs would not be available to your child. Examples include:

- Afterschool Classroom Enrichment (ACE)
- Summer Enrichment
- Instrument Rental
- Zero Period PE
- Science Little League
- Honors Concert

## What Is The Difference Between IPSF And PTA?

- We work collaboratively with local site based PTAs. PTAs support individual schools and IPSF supports all 27,000 students in all 35 schools. PTAs primarily focus on funding equipment and materials. IPSF has the ability to also fund people in addition to equipment and supplies.
- By supporting IPSF, your donation helps all of the schools in the district- not just one.
- IPSF employs professional staff.

<b>PTA &amp; IPSF Pay for Different Things</b>	
<b>PTA = Great Stuff for Your School</b>	<b>IPSF= Great Staff for Every School</b>
PTA funds site-specific needs, such as equipment and supplies. For example, classroom and art materials, library books, computers and technology purchases, school equipment, enrichment programs and limited staff support.	IPSF's annual grant to IUSD pays for staff expenses such as teacher salaries. For example, teachers, aides and specialists who conduct music, art, science, and PE, and health clerks and nurses, have all been funded at times through IPSF funding
<b>PTA Programs = School Site Specific</b>	<b>IPSF Programs = District Wide</b>
Most PTA programs are focused at the school site. Examples include assemblies, playground activities, parent education, family nights, jog-a-thons, and book fairs.	IPSF programs take place at schools throughout the district, insuring equal access for all students. Examples include Afterschool Classroom Enrichment Program, Middle School Zero Period PE, Counseling Support, and Great Body Shop Health Curriculum (K-6).