



**For Immediate Release**

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## **BAY AREA BUSINESSES STUFF THE BUS FOR OUR STUDENTS**

*Hillsborough Education Foundation hosts its annual supply drive to benefit at-risk students*

(August 14, 2009) TAMPA – In just one week, two Office Depot stores and the FOX 13 studios will become the home of a big yellow school bus for the day. Bay area residents will have the opportunity to visit these locations and “Stuff the Bus” to help thousands of underprivileged students in Hillsborough County get the supplies they need to succeed in school.

During the summer months, the Hillsborough Education Foundation enlists the help of Bay Area businesses and organizations to participate in the Stuff the Bus Supply Drive to benefit the organization’s Teaching Tools for Hillsborough Schools program. The partnering groups host a supply drive at their place of business and serve as drop-off locations for the community, encouraging employees and customers to bring in extra supplies to donate to the program. To date over 90 businesses are participating, including: The Bank of Tampa, BJ’s Wholesale, FOX 13 Care Force, Hillsborough County Tax Collector, St. Petersburg Times, and Suncoast Schools Federal Credit Union.

More than half of the 190,000+ students in Hillsborough County Public Schools cannot afford the basic supplies needed to succeed in the classroom. Teaching Tools for Hillsborough Schools works year-round to remedy this issue by providing these supplies to teachers in the district’s most economically disadvantaged schools and education sites, free of cost.

For more information on the bus locations and the 2009 Stuff the Bus Supply Drive, including a list of supply drop-off sites, visit [www.educationfoundation.com](http://www.educationfoundation.com).

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### **Information on Hillsborough Education Foundation, Inc:**

The Hillsborough Education Foundation is a 501(c) 3 charitable organization whose mission is to invest community resources to help students achieve academic success. The Foundation, now celebrating 20 years of serving the students, teachers and schools in our community has invested more than \$69 million for enhancement of education. The Foundation annually raises over \$5 million and fulfills its mission via programs such as College, Career & Technical Scholarships, Teaching Tools for Hillsborough Schools, Take Stock in Children Mentoring, School Enrichment, and Excellence in Education programs as well as other resource programs to benefit those we serve.