



For Immediate Release

For additional information, contact:
Melinda Dale
813-231-1952
mdale@educationfoundation.com

VERIZON FOUNDATION DONATION TO BENEFIT HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY'S AT-RISK STUDENTS

Provides \$20,000 gift to help teachers obtain the tools to ensure their students' success

(April 1, 2009) TAMPA – As a part of its continued support of education in Tampa Bay, the Verizon Foundation presented a \$20,000 donation to Teaching Tools for Hillsborough Schools, a program of the Hillsborough Education Foundation. This gift will support the Foundation's Teaching Tools program, which provides free surplus supplies and materials to teachers at 87 of the county's Title-1 schools and educational sites.

The Verizon Foundation is a long-time supporter of the Teaching Tools program and a strong supporter of community efforts to improve literacy skills and enhance educational opportunities for children. The Foundation holds a significant role in supporting education in Hillsborough County through its partnership with the Hillsborough Education Foundation.

Since its inception in 1988, the Hillsborough Education Foundation has been committed to investing community resources to help students achieve academic success. To date the Foundation has provided over \$66 million to the students, teachers and schools in the county. Its main initiatives include: career and technical education, Excellence in Education recognition programs, scholarships, school enrichment programs, the Nature's Classroom environmental education program, and Teaching Tools for Hillsborough Schools.

For more information on the Verizon Foundation visit <http://foundation.verizon.com>. To learn more about the Hillsborough Education Foundation visit 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 \$66 million for enhancement of education. The Foundation annually raises over \$5 million and fulfills its mission via programs such as Classroom & School Grants, Student Scholarships, Teaching Tools for Hillsborough Schools, Hillsborough Reads, Take Stock in Children Mentoring, and Excellence in Education programs as well as other resource programs to benefit those we serve.