



# How to Use DonorsChoose at HLS

"Ohio's dedicated teachers already reach into their own pockets to buy extras for their students, personally donating an average of \$600 every year, by one estimate. But online crowdfunding gives them an opportunity to reach out to contributors throughout their community and the world...[however] crowdfunding can pose some risks, including issues of student privacy, legal liability and harm to school reputation."

Dave Yost -- Ohio Auditor of State & Attorney General-Elect  
"Crowdfunding Classrooms" | Special Report | July 11, 2018

DonorsChoose.org is the only HLS-approved online crowdfunding service that can be used by HLS teachers to solicit donations. The following guidelines support HLS Board of Education Policy GBIA (also IGDF A) and must be followed by any district teaching staff employee who wishes to post on the DonorsChoose.org platform.



1. Talk with your team/department about your idea.
2. Talk with your principal about your idea.
3. Call/visit/email Office of Teaching and Learning to discuss how your idea supports the curriculum and district goals.
4. If your request involves technology, also talk with the Technology Director.
5. Complete the "Hamilton Local Schools - Fundraiser Form" for your project.
6. Work with Mike Morbitzer to create the message for the DonorsChoose.org post.

## References

Hamilton Local School District Policy Manual | Policy GBIA | Adopted October 8, 2018

Yost, Dave. "Crowdfunding Classrooms: With sound policies in place, school districts can ensure that online fundraising enhances student learning." Special Report. 11 July 2018.  
<https://ohioauditor.gov/publications/2018%20crowdfunding%20report%20FINAL.pdf>