



Using **MASS CHILD** Makes It Easy To Help Your Students In Need



1 MTA members use their local association funds to buy qualifying items for a student with financial need. Clothing, school supplies, eyeglasses, books, and health and fitness gear are some of the things Mass Child can help you provide for your students.

2 Submit an application and receipts to the Mass Child board. The application is online, and receipts can be easily uploaded. Make sure your local association president approves the purchase.

3 Receive reimbursement. The Mass Child board, consisting of MTA members from around the state, meets five times throughout the school year to approve applications and reimburse local associations for the items purchased for students in need.

The application and more details can be found online at massteacher.org/masschild.

FOR THE **LOVE OF BOOKS**

And consider applying this fall to our new For the Love of Books program. Mass Child and the national First Book organization have teamed up to get books into students' hands. Participating in this program is a wonderful opportunity to creatively boost literacy skills and cut down on screen time.

Details and applications for our reimbursement grants and the new For the Love of Books program are online at massteacher.org/masschild.



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* In memory of Taylor Brennan

** In memory of Elizabeth Buckley

MASS CHILD ANNUAL REPORT

The Massachusetts Child is having an exceptional year. We welcomed six new members to our Board of Directors and successfully launched a book program that has been in development for more than a year.

As we introduced new initiatives, we remained grounded in Mass Child's core mission: ensuring students have what they need to be ready to learn. With the insight of our board members, experienced educators representing a wide range of perspectives, we continue to respond with creativity and flexibility to the needs of local associations.

Whether supporting a school community where many students rely on bicycles due to limited transportation by helping provide safety helmets, or assisting locals in purchasing winter coats and boots for students facing harsh New England weather, we are committed to meeting students where they are.

Earlier this year, Mass Child launched For the Love of Books, a program connecting local associations with the national First Book organization. Through this partnership, locals receive vouchers to access high-quality, affordable books via the First Book Marketplace. Books are delivered directly to schools, where MTA members create meaningful opportunities to put them into students' hands with no cost to families.

In our initial rollout, Mass Child approved applications from 15 PreK-12 locals, distributing vouchers that will provide more than 7,300 books to students. We look forward to expanding this program and reopening applications in the fall.

Our traditional programs continue to have a strong impact. Since the start of the school year, nearly 50 local associations have applied for support, and Mass Child has distributed close to \$43,000 to help educators meet the needs of students facing financial hardship.

We are proud of what we are able to accomplish together in support of students.

We also extend a warm welcome to our newest board members: Naomi Akan (Canton Educators Association), Truong Dinh (Braintree Education Association), Mary Pat Dodge (Kingston Teachers Association), Meghan Johnson (Algonquin Regional Teachers Association), Rosa Lopez-Whitehill (Pembroke Teachers Association), and Lori Silveira (New Bedford Educators Association).

Mass Child is funded by donations and driven by educators. We encourage you to give as you are able and to apply for support when needed.

In solidarity,
Christy Nickerson, Chair

MASSACHUSETTS CHILD BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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A DIVERSE UNION
of EDUCATION
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