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COUNCILWOMAN GREUEL JOINS WITH “DONORS CHOOSE” TO RAISE FUNDS FOR VALLEY SCHOOLS

Greuel launches website to solicit donations for innovative classroom projects

LOS ANGELES – In an effort to raise over \$5,000 for Los Angeles public schools, Councilwoman Wendy Greuel joined with national organization Donors Choose today to launch a website allowing Valley residents to donate in small and large amounts to local classrooms.

"In the spirit of Valentine's day let's show some love to our schools," said Councilwoman Wendy Greuel. "With the help of our residents, teachers across LA can get the tools they need to inspire our kids. Whether you are arming a math class with special visuals to help understand fractions, or supporting an English teacher's quest to buy non-fiction books for her students, your donations will be appreciated."

Councilwoman Greuel is kicking off the local fund-raising drive by donating \$1000 to teacher-proposed projects in Council District 2. Residents can view and fund project proposals from teachers at public schools in Councilwoman Greuel's City Council District at the new web page www.donorschoose.org/lalove (select the link "Councilwoman Wendy Greuel's help our kids challenge").

Donors can choose the project to which they want to contribute and the exact dollar amount they are able give. Councilwoman Greuel's Donors Choose webpage displays 12 projects totaling \$5,279 in elementary, middle and high school classrooms from Sunland-Tujunga to Sherman Oaks. A Dixie Canyon Elementary School teacher requests \$245 to buy visual blocks that will help special education students to learn basic math skills. A North Hollywood High School teacher is soliciting contributions to buy college preparatory books for her senior class at the cost of \$566.

Since her election to office in 2001, Councilwoman Wendy Greuel has worked to enhance partnerships between community members and local schools. She has worked to recruit parent volunteers and provide Safety Valet programs to every interested elementary school in her district. She sponsors an annual child health and safety fair and is launching a program to bring public transportation information to middle school students. Council District 2 includes the Studio City, Sherman Oaks, Valley Village, Valley Glen, Van Nuys, North Hollywood, Sun Valley, Shadow Hills Lake View Terrace, La Tuna Canyon and Sunland-Tujunga neighborhoods.

DonorsChoose.org was pioneered by teachers at a Bronx public high school in the spring of 2000. DonorsChoose.org is a nonprofit website where public school teachers describe specific educational projects for their students, and donors can pick the projects they want to support. After completing a project, the donor receives photographs and thank-you letters from the classroom he/she chose to help. DonorsChoose.org opened in Los Angeles in 2005 and opened to schools nationwide in 2007. Support for DonorsChoose.org in Southern California is provided by Bank of America.

For more information or to make a donation, please visit www.donorschoose.org.

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