

Energizing Education: OG&E Donates Supplies to Alma Teachers Electric utility provides over \$100,000 in classroom materials to local schools



Alma Public Schools teachers grin with their new classroom supplies provided by OG&E's pop-up shop.

**ALMA (Aug. 17, 2022)** – With the new school year just around the corner, it's time to stock up on school supplies. However, many families struggle to afford school materials, and too often teachers end up paying out-of-pocket for those critical classroom supplies. To alleviate this financial burden on Alma educators, Oklahoma Gas & Electric (OG&E) hosted a free teacher pop-up shop on Aug. 12, 2022 at Alma High School to ensure local teachers have the supplies they need for their students to succeed.

Volunteers from the electric utility, as well as representatives from Alma Public Schools, distributed important school supplies like paper, binders, scissors, glue and more to teachers in the Alma area.

"I was really worried about purchasing extra supplies for my students, especially with how high prices are right now," said Lisa Jensen, a second-grade teacher at Alma Public Schools and the school district's 2021 Teacher of the Year. "OG&E's generous donations provide some much-needed relief for teachers, and we can now start the school year with a prepared and positive attitude. Thanks, OG&E!"

Over the next few weeks, OG&E volunteers and representatives will host additional popup shops across the service area, providing over \$100,000 of vital school supplies to multiple school districts. This is the third year OG&E has hosted teacher pop-up shops.

"A pencil or a box of crayons may not seem that expensive alone, but the costs of school supplies can add up quickly – especially for teachers paying for these supplies out-of-pocket," said Eddie Lee Herndon, OG&E community affairs manager. "Teachers do so much for their students and the community. We are honored to do our part in supporting them."

All donated supplies for the teacher pop-up shops are purchased from Shawnee-based South Central Industries, a nonprofit that employs individuals with developmental disabilities.

"A well-stocked classroom translates to a comprehensive and impactful educational experience," said Stacie Wood, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning for Alma Schools. "Thanks to OG&E's generous donation, teachers don't have to worry about providing necessary school supplies on their own and can instead concentrate on what really matters: teaching our students."

Donating resources to classrooms is just one example of OG&E's commitment to educational stewardship. Whether it's scholarships, classroom project funding or student safety programs, OG&E is dedicated to education investment. For more information on how the organization supports Arkansas schools, visit <u>oge.com/education</u>.

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## About OG&E

Oklahoma Gas and Electric Company, a subsidiary of OGE Energy Corp. (NYSE: OGE), is Oklahoma's largest electric utility. For more than a century, we have provided customers in Oklahoma and western Arkansas the safe, reliable electricity needed to power their businesses and homes with some of the nation's lowest electric rates, according to S&P Global Market Intelligence. Our employees are committed to generating and delivering electricity, protecting the environment, and providing excellent service to approximately 882,000 customers. OG&E has 7,207 MW of electric generation capacity fueled by natural gas, wind, low-sulfur coal, and solar. OG&E employees live, work, and volunteer in the communities we serve. For more information about OG&E, visit us at <u>OGE.com</u> or follow us on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u> and <u>Instagram</u>.

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