

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



Left to right: Poteau Public Schools teachers Shannon Bullard, Jamilyn Knight, Robyn Gillham, Kayla Gregory, Courtney Wilis and Ashlea Carnell smile as they receive free supplies for their classrooms from OG&E's pop-up shop.

**POTEAU (Aug. 10, 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 Poteau area educators, Oklahoma Gas & Electric (OG&E) hosted a free teacher pop-up shop on Aug. 5, 2022 at Poteau 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 Poteau Public Schools, distributed important school supplies like paper, binders, scissors, glue and more to teachers in the Poteau area.

"I am so thankful to OG&E and its partners for providing us teachers with the supplies we need in our classrooms," said Kayla Gregory, a Poteau Public Schools teacher. "It's

gratifying to know we have such supportive community partners who truly care about empowering our students and investing in their education."

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 Oklahoma school districts. This is the third year OG&E has hosted teacher popup 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.

"The relief of having a well-stocked classroom means educators can focus their time and effort on teaching students," said Diane Tillery, Poteau Public Schools Assistant Superintendent. "These donated supplies will be fundamental to student success as we start the school year. We are so grateful to OG&E for its generous donation."

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 Oklahoma schools, visit <a href="oge-com/education">oge-com/education</a>.

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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 OGE.com or follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

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