

REWARD Trust Proposal: 2017-18

Following is the request for support of teachers' salaries by Danbury Chapter towards REWARD Trust.

Chapter	Name of teacher	School	\$ paid, 2017	Min.increase	Expected pay from July 2017	Budget for Jul 17-Jun 18
Danbury	Kumaresan P	Naththam High School	13000	300	13300	159600
Danbury	Revathi T M	Vayalur High School	10000	300	10300	123600
Danbury	Hemalatha R (bdhr)	Easoor Middle School	8200	300	8500	102000
Danbury	Kalpana S	Vittilapuram Middle School	8500	300	8800	105600
Danbury	Periya Palayatha A	Kariachery Primary School	8200	300	8500	102000

Total amount: \$592800

REWARD Trust aims to play a significant role in developing, improving the academic standards of the rural, marginalised, first generation students in Government Schools and thereby enabling a significant number of them to empower themselves through Education Based Enlightenment.

We started carrying out these aims by first addressing the problem of teacher insufficiency, deepening, widening and strengthening the knowledge base of our teachers, arming them intellectually by exposing them to various fields & experts in those fields, encouraging them to cooperatively engage with available Govt appointed teachers to, initially, improve the academic performance of all students.

After a decade of persistent work, subject to Ground Zero Logistical Fluctuations, we can, now, say with greater confidence that there is a deterministic enhanced performance among the underprivileged students -- whose only gateway for liberation is the Rural Govt Schools -- because of our teachers hard work (as indicated by the increasing pass % of students at the overall school level, the robust over 90% pass in the subjects taught by our teachers, by the increasing number of students securing over 80% in board exams and by the increasing number of students aspiring & getting admitted to Higher education).

Only because of the presence of our teachers in these Govt Schools, REWARD Trust is getting enabled to execute the next step of achieving robust Enhanced Learning Outcomes amongst these students. While the results are encouraging and occasionally exceed our expectations, it is still in the fluctuating mode. We are yet to attain the confidence that we have in the enhanced

performance levels! We hope to achieve this in the next 5 years. As and when the Govt appoints enough teachers, we also plan to slowly wean away our teachers from the routine syllabus & time table based work, and make them pay a more focused attention on improving problem solving skills and a possible expansion to address the pressing issue of developing other skills, that go beyond mere academics (eg fine arts, sports, entrepreneurial/engineering skills), in the students.

The academic year 2016-17 has been more rewarding than the previous years. The hiccups are becoming weaker & fewer and accolades are getting a little louder and wider!

Some schools (Kariachery & Kalkulam) under REWARD Trust won the TN Govt sponsored District Level Top 5 Best School Award (Prize money Of Rs 12.5k & 25k. The selection criterion include students, performance during official visits, Cooperation of Parents, Quality of External Support to the School, REWARD Teachers Contribution is a high point, Number of students grading external competition like NMMS, Increase in School Admission, Education Officials recommendation).

Some teachers (Revathi, Rajarajan of Manamai; Divya & Sasirekha of Nerumbur; Suresh of Sogandi; Revathi & Loganathan of Vayalur; Divya of Patraikazhani) have received best Teacher Certificates / Shields. One Teacher (Logambal of Perambakkam) has been invited to give training to other Govt Teachers during the resource Training Camp conducted by the Govt.

A number of students (Kalkulam, Vengapakkam) are now clearing the National Merit Cum Means Scholarship (NMMS) tests to get a monthly Rs 500/- scholarship. Several HMs attribute this success to the SMART Tests being conducted by REWARD Trust and the quality coaching that our teachers provide.

It would be appropriate and fair to record here that all this would be impossible but for the consistent and a very significant support extended by Asha for Education over the years.