



NEWS RELEASE

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Janus Capital Group and Ping Identity Recognized as Outstanding School Partners

DPS Foundation honors two outstanding business partnerships for their work in supporting Denver Public Schools

Denver, CO (April 27, 2016) – The School Partners Program has recognized two outstanding business partnerships for their work in supporting Denver Public Schools. The winning partnerships with Janus Capital Group and Ping Identity were recognized on April 21 at the 2016 Achieve Gala, the Denver Public Schools Foundation’s annual fundraiser in support of Denver Public Schools (DPS). Each business received an engraved trophy and \$500 grant designated for their Partner School. The awards were presented by Gov. John Hickenlooper, Christine Benero, President and CEO of Mile High United Way, and Verónica Figoli, President and CEO of the DPS Foundation.

“There is no question that public private partnership is an incredibly powerful thing,” Gov. Hickenlooper said at the Achieve Gala. “Our business community recognizes the importance of engaging with and supporting our schools. The School Partners Program awardees are leading by example with their commitment to our students.”

The 2016 Legacy Partner of the Year was awarded to Janus Capital Group for their outstanding and long-term commitment to the School Partners Program and Denver Public Schools. Janus models the way as a corporate partner in Denver Public Schools. In addition to being DPS’ most generous corporate donor to date, Janus was the first business to pilot online tutoring via TutorMate with the School Partners Program. Janus’ employee engagement was the catalyst for growing TutorMate in DPS, which started with 5 pilot classrooms in 2012 to nearly 50 this school year and 23 businesses participating. Janus employees are deeply committed to DPS, donating more than 275 hours of volunteer time this school year, including CEO Richard Weil who reads weekly with a first-grader from Kunsmiller Creative Arts Academy. Janus also supports schools by hosting supply drives and providing resources for students who are experiencing homelessness.

The 2016 Small Business Partner of the Year was awarded to Ping Identity. Ping Identity has partnered with DPS’ CareerConnect for two years by supporting STEM education through work-based learning. Ping Identity has hosted multiple job shadow opportunities as well as provided 17 mentors for DPS students exploring careers in technology. Students reported an increased awareness of careers in technology thanks to this partnership. Employees are actively engaged with Abraham Lincoln High School and High Tech Early College, giving 220 hours of volunteer time this school year.

The [School Partners Program](#) creates meaningful partnerships between Denver’s community and Denver Public Schools. Through this unique program, local businesses and community organizations team up with specific DPS schools to contribute to the success of every DPS student. To be considered a School Partner, a business must commit to a minimum of four activities with their school each year.



“Congratulations to our two outstanding award winners, Janus Capital Group and Ping Identity. Both Partners are contributing to the students, families and educators in their partner schools in truly meaningful ways. These partnerships are having an impact on the culture in our schools, and on the success of our students. We’re proud to have 83 school partnerships currently active in our elementary, middle and high schools,” says Verónica Figoli, President and CEO of the DPS Foundation.

The School Partners Program is a collaboration between the Denver Public Schools Foundation, Mile High United Way and Denver Public Schools. The program creates tailor-made partnerships between schools and businesses or community organizations to help every DPS student succeed. School Partners provide a combination of volunteer time, in-kind contributions and financial resources to meet the specific needs of their partner school. Businesses or organizations interested in becoming engaged with Denver Public Schools are encouraged to contact the DPS Foundation at (720) 423-3553. The DPS Foundation can help direct your support – financial, volunteer, in-kind or otherwise – to have the greatest impact on DPS students. Learn more at www.dpsfoundation.org.