

Horace Mann Funds \$9,000 in <u>DonorsChoose.org</u> Projects at Education Association Meetings

Projects funded include one from Copper King Elementary School

SPRINGFIELD, III. (July 8, 2015) – Adrian Osbon's students at Copper King Elementary School in Phoenix, Arizona will have two new books to read and an audio book to listen to thanks to Horace Mann who completed funding on her DonorsChoose.org project. Horace Mann, an insurance and financial services company that works with educators to help secure their financial futures, donated more than \$9,000 to 26 projects at the National Association of Elementary School Principals Conference in Long Beach, California and the National Education Association Annual Meeting in Orlando, Florida last week.

Osbon, a fifth grade teacher, wants to use the chapter books, "The Island of the Blue Dolphin" and "Where the Red Fern Grows," for small groups. "Students will be answering comprehensive questions related to the books and playing small center games based on what they have read," said Osbon in her <u>project post</u>. "My goal is to help build their vocabulary knowledge and expose them to different types of reading genres."

"We donate to <u>DonorsChoose.org</u> projects as a way to support teachers in the classroom," said Horace Mann President and CEO Marita Zuraitis. "Teachers have told us they spend their own money on classroom supplies. By removing some of that burden, we hope to enable them to direct some of that money to achieve their personal financial goals."

In the <u>May 2015 Horace Mann Educators Survey</u>, more than half of teachers surveyed said they spend \$200 or more of their money on supplies. Horace Mann

started a partnership with <u>DonorsChoose.org</u> in 2011, donating to teacher projects and assisting educators by teaching them how to post a project.

"It is so rewarding to see a teacher's project completed," said local Horace Mann agent Angelo Rossetti. "The teachers know best what they need to help students learn and through DonorsChoose.org everyone can help support teachers and students. Horace Mann is proud to support educators."

In addition to completing Osbon's project by donating \$490, Horace Mann also completed projects for book bins, Hokki stools, building blocks, iPads and more at schools throughout the country.

About Horace Mann

Horace Mann (Horace Mann Educators Corp. (NYSE:HMN) is the largest national multiline insurance company focusing on educators' financial needs. Horace Mann provides auto and homeowners insurance, retirement annuities, life insurance and other financial solutions. *Founded by Educators for Educators* in 1945, the company is headquartered in Springfield, Illinois. For more information about the company, visit horacemann.com.

About DonorsChoose.org

Founded in 2000, <u>DonorsChoose.org</u> is a nonprofit website where public school teachers describe specific educational projects for their students, and donors can choose the projects they want to support. To date, more than 237,000 public and charter school teachers have used the site to secure funding for \$330 million in books, art supplies, technology, and other resources that have supported 14.7 million students.