

# FRANKLIN UNIVERSITY NEWS RELEASE

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**For Immediate Release:** September 4, 2007    Contact Sherry Mercurio, Director of Public Relations  
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## **Franklin University Gives Lincoln Park Elementary Students A Head Start**

**Columbus, Ohio** — **Franklin University**, one of the leading educators of working adults, is pleased to announce its donation of book bags and school supplies for the first graders of Lincoln Park Elementary School.

Phyllis Duryee and Suzan Waller, faculty members at Franklin University, brought forward their belief that that the higher education community had the opportunity to assist in preparing students for success both at the primary and higher educational levels. Something as simple as providing the basic supplies needed to complete coursework can make the difference between engaging or losing a child's interest at the earliest levels of learning.

The two assembled members of Franklin University's Faculty and staff and began identifying a first grade class with low enrollment that is also located near the University. A Columbus Dispatch article published in August, detailing Columbus Public Schools most in need, provided the final element in choosing the elementary school that fit Franklin's criteria, Lincoln Park Elementary.

Understanding the relationship between well prepared children performing better, the Franklin University group collected donations of paper, pencils, erasers, notebooks, scissors, crayons, glue sticks, folders and tissues to place in book bags (half purchased by the Franklin University and half donated by Christine Karse of Artina Promotional Products). The book bag sets will be **delivered today, Tuesday, September 4 at 3 p.m. to nearly 60 Lincoln Park first grade students.**

<p><b>Franklin University</b> <b>Donation to</b> <b>Lincoln Park Elementary</b> Tuesday, September 4, 2007 3 p.m. 1666 S. 18th Street Columbus, Ohio 43207</p>
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“This was such a great opportunity to provide the extra help that may be the difference between these students excelling or falling behind in their studies. So many students lose a step in the education process due to factors associated with self-esteem rather than intellectual ability. Supplying school supplies to an entire grade of students can provide these students with a sense of equality rather than inadequacy. It was such a simple step to take to make such a great impact on these students,” said Phyllis Duryee, Course Manager, Franklin University.

### About Franklin University

*Founded in 1902, Franklin University is central Ohio's leading and most experienced educator of adult students. Annually, more than 10,000 students attend Franklin, both on campus and online. Franklin offers 19 undergraduate majors and three graduate programs, and graduates more than 1,500 students annually. Further information regarding Franklin University can be found at [www.franklin.edu](http://www.franklin.edu).*

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