

**NEWS RELEASE: For immediate release**

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**Cuts in Educational Spending Send Schools Looking For Money Elsewhere**  
*Finding the Funds* Offers Proven Strategies for Improving Any School

MADISON, WI., – February 21, 2003 – Schools nationwide are facing budget cuts at both the national and state level and many are looking for alternative ways to secure funding for their school programs. Unfortunately, most schools do not have the resources to devote to the daunting task of searching and applying for funds.

The recently published *Finding the Funds* booklet from Renaissance Learning can help educators in their search. Available free from the Renaissance Learning web site, *Finding the Funds* offers a variety of tips and creative ways schools can secure funding via fund-raising and/or grant writing. It explains:

- Where educators can look for funding
- How to host a successful fund-raising campaign
- How to effectively write grant proposals for private, foundation, or federal funds.

“Every educator who has great plans for their school and no funding should visit the Renaissance Funding Center frequently. It contains helpful information for government as well as Foundation grants available in your state. Whether you are going after large grants or supplemental funding, all the information you need is at your fingertips! This resource is extremely user-friendly and is one of my essential tools,” says Deborah Porter, Ph.D., Author of *Successful School Grants: Fulfilling the Promise of School Improvement* and grant-writing expert who has secured more than \$30 million in awarded grants in 19 states over the past two years.

The examples included in this booklet are based on proven techniques that educators nationwide have used with success to obtain funding for their school programs.

*Finding the Funds* lists national fundraising companies, funding web sites and useful, reproducible resource sheets that educators can use to keep track of notes, contacts, and progress.

To make the search for funding even easier for educators, Renaissance Learning has created the on-line Funding Center, a free, comprehensive source of funding information. The center allows educators to easily find federal, state, private and local funding opportunities specific to any region in the country. They may use the service to apply for funds to purchase Renaissance programs, or any program they'd like.

To get your copy of *Finding the Funds* visit <http://www.renlearn.com/requestform.asp>. Learn more about the Renaissance Learning Funding Center visit <http://www.renlearn.com/fundingcenter>.

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