**Giant Food awards over $2M to local schools through A+ School Rewards**

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*Grants part of Giant’s efforts to support area schools*

Giant Food of Landover, Md. announced today a $2 million donation to 1,466 public and private schools in Maryland, Virginia, Washington, D.C., and Delaware.  The funds are the result of the **2015-2016 *A+ School Rewards*** program where purchases made by Giant shoppers help provide funding to area schools. **Giant’s total donation saw a one percent increase from last year with a record-breaking 20 schools receiving over $10,000 each in awards.**

“Giant is, once again, thrilled about the success of the A+ School Rewards program. 2016 was a historic year for the initiative, one which saw the largest awards yet all across the DMV,” said Gordon Reid, President, Giant of Landover, Md. “Education is of the utmost importance to Giant and the communities we serve. We are proud to partner with our schools and our communities to ensure that kids have the greatest and most robust educational experience possible.”

Each fall, Giant customers can sign up and designate up to two schools to benefit from their purchases. *A+ School Rewards* points accrue with each purchase made using a Giant Card and are credited to the designated schools’ accounts. Since launching the program in 1989, Giant has donated more than $94 million to local schools throughout the communities it serves. There is no limit to what schools can do with their *A+ School Rewards*, including earning funds for technology, scholarships, school programs, field trips, playgrounds, and other educational needs that ultimately enhance the students’ educational experience.

Mater Dei School of Bethesda, Md. received $31,582.74, the program’s largest award in history.

 “Mater Dei is most grateful to be the recipient of Giant’s fantastic generosity. Giant, through its *A+ School Rewards* program, helps so many schools and we are honored to be part of the program,” said Edward Williams, Mater Dei School president. “Our school will use the grant to continue to improve our technology capabilities.”

**The ten schools receiving the largest awards from the 2015-2016 *A+ School Rewards* program are:**

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| Mater Dei School | Bethesda, Md. |   | $31,582.74 |
| Folger McKinsey Elementary School | Severna Park, Md. |   | $18,662.01 |
| Bodkin Elementary School | Pasadena, Md. |   | $17,272.17 |
| **Herbert Hoover Middle School** | **Potomac, Md.** |  | **$16,831.97** |
| **Winston Churchill Senior High School** | **Potomac, Md.** |  | **$15,799.95** |
| McLean High School | McLean, Va. |   | $15,794.50 |
| Severna Park Senior High School | Severna Park, Md. |   | $15,131.61 |
| Turner Elementary School | Washington, DC |   | $14,910.71 |
| Langley High School | McLean, Va. |   | $14,013.01 |
| **Bethesda – Chevy Chase High School** | **Bethesda, Md.** |  | **$12,675.71** |

To learn more about *A+ School Rewards* and for a complete list of participating schools, please visit [www.GiantFood.com/aplus](http://www.giantfood.com/aplus).