



About Us

Opportunity Education is an international charitable foundation that provides quality educational opportunities for children in developing countries. The foundation supplies educational materials and support to almost 1,000 schools in Africa and Asia.

Opportunity Education also facilitates a Sister School Program by linking schools in our program with schools around the world. Students and teachers can exchange pen pal letters, make friends, and learn more about different countries and cultures.

J. Joe Ricketts
 Founder, Benefactor and CEO
Jim Ricketts
 President
Alan Barkley



Nancy Skudlarek, Sara Mitchell (holding a Flip video camera) and Deanna Stevens

Loveland Elementary takes Sister School Relationship to "Next Level"

In 2009, Loveland Elementary School in Omaha, NE brainstormed ways to connect with their Sister School, Atuitui Primary School, in remote Uganda. In addition to exchanging pen-pal letters, Loveland Elementary decided to send disposable cameras and a return envelope. The cameras were returned and 100 photos were developed and shared with the school's excited students and staff.

In 2010, the school decided to take it to the next level and create a video DVD entitled "A Day in the Life of Loveland Elementary." The production team consisted of 11 students in Grades 4, 5 and 6 who were selected by their teachers. Staff involved in the project included Sandy Irish, Gloria Stover, Jaime Kammandel, Lynda Morton, Denise Kueny, Sara Mitchell, Nancy Skudlarek and Deanna Stevens.

Armed with hand-held, flip video cameras the students set off to document a day in the life of the school. Beforehand, they learned storyboarding, scriptwriting, interview strategies, and reading fluency. Film editing was done on an iMac with iMovie software (thank you, Steve Jobs). The final DVD was complete with professional-looking labels and case jackets. Copies were recently sent off to Atuitui Primary School.

When asked what advice they would give to other schools considering such a project, Media Specialist, Sarah Mitchell, responded "be organized and really believe in your students. Don't be afraid to let your students take the lead with the technology-they pick it up so fast."

What Sister School project is planned for the 2011 school year at Loveland Elementary? One idea that is floating around is to raise funds to build a well at Atuitui Primary School to help supply fresh water.

Target School Photos and/or Videos Now Available on OE Website

Opportunity Education's website (www.opportunityeducation.org) has recently undergone some changes. A complete list of Target and Sister Schools is available under the "Our Schools" menu. By clicking on a school name, you can get a detailed description of the school, contact information, Sister School partner, photos and videos (where available). As an example, check out this page for [Mild Care Parents School in Uganda](#).

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For more information about
Opportunity Education
and our programs, please visit
our website at
www.opportunityeducation.org

Please be sure to add
info@opportunityeducation.org
to your email list to ensure
that you receive our
newsletter, contest
information and other emails
from Opportunity Education.
If you are not receiving our
emails, please check your
spam or bulk email folder, as
sometimes our emails are sent
there by mistake.

Thank you.



Alan Barkley, Exec. Director of International Operations for Opportunity Education (far left) meets with the President of Tanzania (far right)

OE Reps Meets with Tanzanian President

NEW YORK- Alan Barkley, Opportunity Education's Executive Director of International Operations (pictured far left), met with the President of Tanzania, Jakaya Kikwete (pictured far right), to discuss the status of the Foundation's efforts in Tanzania. Opportunity Education's first schools were in Tanzania and it currently supports 256 schools with plans to add 145 schools in 2012.

Alan also informed President Kikwete about two Professional Development Seminars hosted by Opportunity Education in Moshi and Mwanza this past summer. Almost 500 teachers from 171 Tanzanian schools attended the seminars. Mr. Barkley ended his presentation by emphasizing Opportunity Education's commitment to provide support to Tanzanian teachers and students for years to come.

President Kikwete thanked Opportunity Education for its continuing efforts to provide quality educational resources, and to touch the lives of thousands of students and teachers across Tanzania.



Students at Square Hill Primary School, South Africa

Explore the World with Your Students: Become a Sister School

Opportunity Education will partner your school with one of the nearly 1,000 international schools in our program through our free Sister School Program. Your students will learn about different cultures, send pen pal letters, and discover the similarities they share with children around the world! If you would like your school to participate in Opportunity Education's Sister School Program, send an email to info@opportunityeducation.org. To watch our award-winning documentary about two schools in our Sister School Program, please visit our website at www.opportunityeducation.org.