

# Survey: Most US Public School Teachers Pay for Students’ School Supplies

Posted June 29, 2018

Category : Education/Family

## Unlocking Word Meanings

Read the following words/expressions found in today’s article.

- 1. **shell out** / **ʃel aʊt** / (idiom) – to spend one’s own money  
*Example:* I **shelled out** \$100 to buy books for my poor students.
- 2. **reimburse** / **ri-əmˈbɜrs** / (v) – to repay a person with the same amount he/she spent  
*Example:* My company **reimbursed** me for all my business trip expenses.
- 3. **insufficient** / **ˌɪn-səˈfɪʃ-ənt** / (adj) – not having the enough amount  
*Example:* The school had an **insufficient** number of books, so some students had to share.
- 4. **go out of (one’s) way** / **ɡoʊ aʊt əv weɪ** / (idiom) – to do something beyond what is expected  
*Example:* I admire her for **going out of** her **way** to take care of her sick student.
- 5. **solicit** / **səˈlɪs-ɪt** / (v) – to ask for support  
*Example:* I will try to **solicit** funds for our project.

## Article

Read the text below.

Majority of public school teachers in the United States **shell out** their own money to purchase school supplies, according to a recent survey.

彼ら自身のお金で自腹を切る(shell out : 自腹、自分自身のお金を使う)

The survey, which was conducted by the US Federal Department of Education, revealed that 94% of public school teachers spent an average of nearly \$480 on school supplies like notebooks and pens for the school year 2014-2015. The said amount was never **reimbursed**.

施行する(conduct : 施行する)

その額がこれまで返済された事は一切ない(reimburse : 返済する、お金を返す)

Findings further revealed that this situation applied to teachers who taught in either urban or rural public schools. They also spent on school supplies regardless of their students’ socio-economic status.

この状況は先生達に適用した(apply : 適用)

都会、もしくは田舎の公立学校(rural : 田舎風の所)

生徒の経済状況に関係なく(regardless : ～とは関係なく)

Randi Weingarten, president of the American Federation of Teachers, stated that the survey findings clearly implied that there is **insufficient** funding in the country’s public schools.

明確に暗示した(clearly : 明確に imply : 暗示する)

不十分な資金調達(insufficient : 不十分 funding : 資金調達)

Because of this, teachers in different states held protests to express their disappointment and to demand a higher wage. Weingarten asserted that teachers are very passionate in helping their students, which is why they will **go out of** their **way** to fight against underfunding.

彼らの失望を表現する為にデモを行った(held protests : デモ活動 protest : 抗議)

高い賃金を要求(wage : 賃金 demand : 要求)

先生方は彼らの生徒を助ける事にとても情熱がある、と断言した(assert : 断言、主張 passionate : 情熱)

彼らは、積み立て不足と戦う為に尽力する(go out of one’s way : ～は尽力する)

Aside from spending their own money, some teachers have tried exploring different means to continuously accommodate their students’ needs.

～は異なる手段の探求を試みた(explore : 探求 means : 手段、方法)

継続して彼らの生徒のニーズに対応する為(continuously : 継続して accommodate : 対応)

Bruce Hogue, a teacher from Denver, **solicits** from private donors to fund the supplies for his students’ science experiments. Hogue successfully gained financial support from NASA, the US Geological Society, and private businesses like Lockheed-Martin.

供給品の資金為に、寄贈者達にせがむ(solicit : せがむ、懇願する donor : 寄贈者、提供してくれる人)

On the other hand, New York-based preschool teacher Andy Yung tried raising money for his classroom projects through DonorsChoose.org. This website lets teachers list down different classroom needs and ask for funding for students’ trip fees, projects, and supplies.

このウェブサイトは先生方に異なるクラスのニーズをリスト化させる(list down : リスト化)

## Viewpoint Discussion

Enjoy a discussion with your tutor.

### Discussion A

- Do you think it is acceptable for teachers to spend their own money on students’ school supplies? Why or why not?

- How do you think US public schools should handle the issue of underfunding?

**Discussion B**

- In what situations do teachers usually go out of their way to help their students? Discuss.

- Why do you think some teachers go out of their way to help their students?