1. What is Virginia G. Piper Charitable Trust?  
Virginia G. Piper Charitable Trust is a private foundation committed to honoring Virginia Galvin Piper's legacy of supporting organizations that enrich health, well-being, and opportunity for the people of Maricopa County. The Trust focuses its grantmaking in six core areas: healthcare and medical research, children, older adults, arts and culture, education and religious organizations. For more information, visit pipertrust.org.

2. Why is my district receiving this grant?  
Your school is one of Maricopa County's public elementary schools with a significant population of students in need and as such, it was selected by Piper Trust’s Board of Trustees for a Back-to-School grant award.

3. Can I apply for a grant for our other schools?  
There is no application process for the program. The highest-need schools are selected based on data provided by the Arizona Department of Education each year.

4. Why were some Title I schools in our district not included?  
Title I designation alone is not the defining factor for this program. Schools are selected for Back-to-School grants based on a number of factors which include: Free and Reduced Lunch Program data, enrollment numbers, and grades served. Some schools that have schoolwide Title I designation may not meet other requirements for this grant program.

5. What can and can’t these funds be used for?  
Schools may use 2020-2021 funds to purchase resources/supplies that support education access for students in need. Examples include hygiene products, technology products and services, school clothes, etc. Due to unprecedented circumstances of the COVID-19 pandemic, Piper Trust's Board of Trustees lifted restrictions on these funds enabling schools to purchase items beyond school clothing. The Trust hopes this funding will help reduce educational barriers that students may experience.

6. How do schools use these funds?  
As stated in question five, schools are not required to purchase only school clothing; funds may be used for resources/supplies that support education access for students in need. Should schools decide to purchase school clothing, these grant funds can augment the valuable support provided by Back-To-School Clothing Drive, Assistance League chapters, and other nonprofit organizations and can be used throughout the year as emergency needs arise. Some grantee schools have leveraged their funds by negotiating partnerships with local stores to purchase clothing at a discounted rate. Schools are encouraged to use this approach and seek discounts and/or matching fund opportunities.

General Resources:  
AZ Center for Afterschool Resources, https://azafterschool.org/coronavirus/  
4323 N. 12th Street, Suite 202, Phoenix, AZ 85014, 602.734.5434  
2100 N. Central Ave., Ste. 200, Phoenix, AZ 85004, 602.254.1100

Clothing Resources:  
Assistance League of Phoenix, Operation School Bell  
http://alphx.org/operation-school-bell  
602.944.7636  
Assistance League East Valley, Operation School Bell  
http://www.assistanceleagueeastvalley.org  
480.792.1606  
Back-To-School Clothing Drive Association, SAFE (Student Attire For Education) Program  
http://www.backtoschoolclothingdrive.com  
602.256.9408

7. How do I access the grant funds?  
Contact your school district about accessing your grant funds.

8. What are the reporting requirements for this grant?  
There are no formal reporting requirements. Piper Trust will contact a random sample of schools to discuss program results and how the Back-to-School funds were used.

9. Can I announce this gift to the public?  
Yes. Please coordinate with your district. Our policy is to review all external communications prior to distribution to ensure accuracy of reference to the grant and Virginia G. Piper Charitable Trust. Please email a draft of your press release or other communications to Karen Leland, Chief Communications Officer, at kleland@pipertrust.org.

10. What if I have additional questions?  
Please contact Chloe Silva at 480.556.7120 or csilva@pipertrust.org  
pipertrust.org/backtoschool