

Back-to-School Express

A VRE Cares Initiative

VRE Cares is proud to support the communities along our rail corridors with our second annual Back-to-School Drive, taking place from July 28 – August 15, 2025. This initiative is made possible through our partnership with Northern Virginia Family Services (NVFS) and local schools along the corridor. VRE is asking for your help in equipping students and teachers with the tools they need for a successful school year. Below, you'll find a list of requested items that will not only prepare students to learn but support our dedicated teachers in creating safe and empowering learning environments. Donated items can be left on your seat for our conductors to collect once the train reaches its final destination.

- Backpacks
- Binders (especially 1')
- Binder dividers
- Bulletin board decorations
- Calculators (graphing)
- Chalk & erasers
- Classroom posters
- Classroom timers
- Compasses (geometry)
- Crayons (especially 24 ct.)
- Deodorant
- Desk organizers
- Disinfecting wipes
- Erasers
- Erasers (pink wedge, latex-free)
- Folders (file)
- Folders (plastic)
- Folders (with pockets)
- Games (educational)
- Glue bottles
- Glue sticks
- Grade books
- H& sanitizer
- Highlighters (especially yellow)
- Index cards (especially lined, 3' x 5')
- Label makers
- Laminating pouches
- Lesson planners
- Lotion
- Lunch boxes
- Lysol & Clorox wipes
- Markers
- Markers (dry erase)
- Markers (permanent, all colors)
- Markers (poster)
- Markers (thin-tip, 10 ct.)
- Notebooks (composition, college & wide ruled)
- Notebooks (spiral, college & wide ruled)
- Paper (art)
- Paper (cardstock, all colors)
- Paper (colored)
- Paper (loose-leaf, college & wide ruled)
- Paper (photocopy)
- Paper clips & binder slips
- Pencils (no. 2)
- Pencils (colored, especially 12 ct.)
- Pencil cases
- Pencil pouches (zippered, for 3-ring binder)
- Pencil sharpeners
- Pencil sharpeners (electric)
- Pens (especially ballpoint)
- Planners/agendas
- Protractors
- Rulers
- Scissors (blunt-tip, safety)
- Scissors (pointed, safety)
- Socks (boys & girls)
- Staplers & staples
- Sticky notes
- Storage bins & organizers
- Supply boxes (plastic, 8' x 5')
- Tape (clear, masking, packing & painters)
- Tissues
- Toothpaste
- Underwear (boys & girls)
- Uniforms (blue bottoms & white, gray, or navy-blue shirts (sizes 4t-18 big kids)
- USB drives
- Water bottles (reuseable)
- Whiteboard markers & erasers





VRE Cares

COMPASSION THROUGH COMMUNITY

VRE Cares aims to tap staff resources and expertise to address community needs. Initiatives may include organizing food, clothing, and blood drives, and partnering with schools, businesses, and non-profits to support their charitable efforts. Social media, informational sessions, and outreach events will build awareness of VRE as a champion of the underserved in the communities we serve.



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