



teachāclass

Annual Report 2018-19

I invite you to share this report with your friends and family – because what we propose to do in the coming year is not to follow the lead, but stop and ask the question – what do teachers truly need?

The truth is that teachers have been inundated with solutions from the outside-in. We're continuously asking them to do more, with increased urgency, but do we take into account the teacher in the solutions we design?

At Teach A Class, we're going to advocate relentlessly and spread awareness around teachers. And we're going to deliver the best experience possible to some of the most deserving people in the teaching eco-system. Because we all know, it takes just one teacher to spark an idea that can revolutionize the world.



Sonia D'Souza
Executive Director

Contents

04 Message from the team

05 Our Impact

07 Teacher Story:
Zubeda and
Venugopal

08 Highlights of the year

10 Teacher Story:
Abhijith

11 Priorities for 2019

12 Partners and
supporters

13 Our board

MESSAGE FROM THE TEAM



2018 was an important year for all of us at Teach A Class. We executed a new strategy which aimed to empower motivated teachers with effective learning tools. 72 teachers were funded and received one of the 3 tools we selected for our pilot.

Working closely with teachers has shown us first-hand the passion, enthusiasm and commitment teachers bring to work every day. As we move forward, we aim to grow into an organization that listens to the needs of teachers and provides them with multiple avenues for development.

We're really grateful to everyone that has believed in our vision, supported teachers and helped us get to where we are today.

Thank you!

Rogers

Tinika

Prudhvi

Yasleen K.

Kamini

Umesh

Ravi

BS Sanja

Rahul

OUR IMPACT

9887

*Children
learning*

72

*Teachers
supported*

3

*Tools for
teachers*

8

*Locations
in India*

68*

*Teachers
trained*

699

*Check-ins
with teachers*

524

*Classes
conducted*

669

*Visits to
schools*

**4 teachers in a school opted out of the training offered*





Going the extra mile for Venu, a child with special needs

When Mrs. Zubeda first stepped into her 1st grade classroom at Attivatta school in Hoskote - a district near Bengaluru - she noticed a child standing in the corner of the class.

He didn't speak to her or anyone else that first day- a trend that continued for a few weeks. She soon found out the reason for his quietness - Venugopal had special needs and suffered from convulsions. She worried about him and was determined to do something to help.

When she saw him show an interest in the personalized learning tool Teach A Class implements in her school, she had her answer. The bright colors and videos excited him and he didn't have to answer aloud - he could just press a button instead. This made it easier for him to learn as he couldn't always understand what his teachers were saying and felt shy to answer in class.

During the personalized learning classes, Mrs. Zubeda could spend more time with Venu and give him the attention he needed.



Mrs. Zubeda



Encouraged by her support, Venu began to improve. At first he just listened to lessons and pressed buttons unknowingly. But with the help of Mrs. Zubeda, he started paying attention to the lessons and learnt the alphabet. A year later, Venu can now operate the tablet on his own, his comprehension has improved and he's even started speaking in short sentences!

Venu is now more confident and loves coming to school every day.

None of this would have been possible without Mrs. Zubeda's hard work, determination and belief in Venu. This year Venu will step into 4th grade. His teacher continues to look for learning tools to open up further possibilities for him.

Venugopal

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR

We supported 72 teachers!

We were able to fund and support 72 teachers with learning tools in our first year. Teachers will be supported for a 2-year period during which we provide them with training, lesson plans and troubleshooting support.

We also accepted 68 teachers into our cohort for next year - after receiving more than 300 applications. Teachers were evaluated on motivation levels, school infrastructure and training needed - among other factors.

3 tools for teachers

We launched our program with 3 tools - ClassCloud (a personalized learning program), School WiFi (a digital library) and an English learning application.

Three new tools were also brought onboard for the coming year - inClass Science Kit, Pratham's Library-in-a-Classroom and piCards.

inClass Science Kit: A kit with over 20 experiments that bring scientific principles to life.

piCards: A mobile app that collects real-time feedback and checks for understanding by recording student responses through QR code cards.

Library-in-a-Classroom: A compact kit filled with over a 100 books by Pratham to encourage the joy of reading amongst children.

All potential tool vendors go through a rigorous tool selection process that evaluates past impact, usefulness for teachers and other factors. Our strict requirements ensure that we only deliver the best possible solutions to teachers.



Permanent Membership on Global Giving

We raised \$2,800 from 28 donors during the Global Giving Accelerator and were one of the few organizations selected for permanent membership on the platform.

We can now accept donations through the platform year-round and participate in various matching donation campaigns. [Click here to contribute to our campaign!](#)



Unprecedented shift in teacher-participation in Central Academy

An overwhelming number of teachers began using the School WiFi at the Central Academy School in Jaipur. After a very erratic start, usage grew from 6 teachers to 30 in just one year!

Initially co-ordination was a problem, so the school leader chose 6 teachers to participate in the program. Usage then spread to other teachers, who saw how it helped students and increased classroom interaction. This eventually resulted in a timetable being designed for 30 teachers to share the tool!

From old benches to a new library!

Anand Singh Rawat, a teacher at the Government Public School in Sorag (Uttarakhand), has created a library for his students out of old benches. Mr. Rawat uses the ClassCloud as part of his lessons but wanted to give his students the opportunity to learn outside the classroom. For most students, school books are the only books they read. He reused extra benches from his classroom to create shelves and gathered books from his friends to fill the library.

How digital resources improved reading skills in a math class

Abhijith Giridhar teaches Math to grades 5 and 6 at the V.D Ghate English Medium School in Pune. He loves spending time with children and wants to be a mentor and friend to his kids.

This year, Abhijith raised funds on teachaclass.org to bring a digital library to his classroom. School WiFi is a device that stores and plays educational content, helping teachers keep students engaged.

Initially, Abhijith used SchoolWiFi as a revision tool. He'd explain concepts and use the videos to recapitulate learnings. But on our recommendation, he started integrating videos into his lessons, which changed the way he taught. Abhijith realised that the videos increased student motivation and helped him find different methods to explain concepts.

During one class, he read a story on the SchoolWiFi as a reward for good behaviour. His kids loved it so much that it became a regular feature of his lessons. During the last 10 minutes of a class Abhijith reads a story using StoryWeaver - if the class has done a good job.

Through his stories, he started seeing an improvement in reading and comprehension. At first he read the stories to them, but after a few weeks the students were able to read with him. He now pairs students to read stories together - they guide their own learnings and only approach Abhijith when stuck.

SchoolWiFi helped Abhijith improve math levels and contributed to an increased English comprehension after only six months. Abhijith also sees a shift in the behaviour of his students, and believes access to the SchoolWiFi played a major role in causing it. He wants to use the SchoolWiFi to improve the grades of students that are struggling and give them more individual attention. We're excited to see what happens next!



PRIORITIES FOR 2019

01

Listen

We aim to be an organization that listens to the needs of teachers and provides solutions to their challenges. In the coming year we will build listening mechanisms across the team to help us source, identify and gather insights on what teachers want.

02

Advocate

We believe it is critical to spread awareness in the ecosystem in order to create lasting change. A core focus will be to amplify the challenges teachers face and highlight the need to support teachers to affect changes in education.

03

Measure

We will develop culture of measurement to ensure our decisions are driven by data. Through focus groups, selection rubrics and the Teacher Observation Application, we aim to understand the impact we create and gain insights on how to do better.

A big thank you to all our donors, supporters and partners!

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Alexander Trauer
Aman Daftary
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Aparna Singh
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Bhavtosh Vajpayee
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DC Sunderraj
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Eric Rice
Guoxin Lin

Prashant Sinha
Praveen Manker
Rohan Srivastava
Rovino Raikhan
Sandrina Da Cruz
Satish Nagaraj
Shreya Karumanchi
Sneha Menon
Sunitha Radhakrishnan
Surojit Shome
Sylvia Veeraraghavan
Tarun Nathaniel Seelan
Teby Thomas
Zainab Ghadiyali

H.A. Mehta
Harsh Khemka
Heidi Heikenfeld
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Jovin Miranda
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Kareena Rogers
Keith Mascarenhas
Lakshmi B Albright
Lavanya Kangavel
Madhuri Parekh
Mahima Philips
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Nichola Noriega

Partners



Institutional Funders



Bouncer Foundation



OUR BOARD



Neil D'souza | US & India Board Member

Neil D'Souza has been involved in the education sector since 2012. He is the founder of Teach A Class and Zaya Learning Labs.



Marina Walne | US Board Member

Marina Walne has over 38 years of experience in the education sector. She is currently the CEO of O3 schools and Board Member at Learning Accelerator.



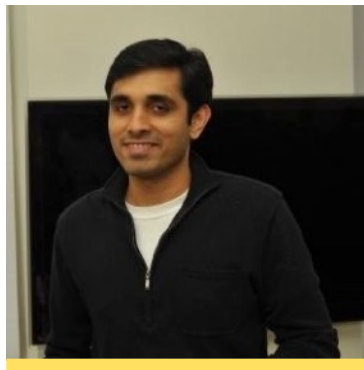
Tory Gattis | US Board Member

Tory works to revolutionize education through low-cost private microschools. He founded Microschool Revolution and Centre for Opportunity Urbanism.



Tymen Crevels | US Board Member

Tymen has been in the Finance sector since 2005. He is currently the Director of Finance at Framer, a design computer software company.



Miheer Walavalkar | India Board Member

Miheer Walavalkar is an alumnus of the Georgia Institute of Technology. He is Co-founder and CEO at LiveLike.



Soma Vajpayee | India Board Member

Soma is a corporate facilitator with 17 years of experience in the financial and ed-tech sector.



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June 2019
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