Watchdog Education Foundation

"Innovative Education Grant Guidelines"

Mission: The mission of the Watchdog Education Foundation is to "provide resources to genuinely enhance educational opportunities for students in the Beresford School District." Grants are awarded for innovative and creative educational projects, which are beyond the scope of the regular school budget.

Eligibility: Those who work in the Beresford School District are eligible for a grant. Grant awards must benefit public education to students but are not meant to supplement the district's budget.

Grant Development: Grants are awarded for innovative and creative educational projects. The project may be for a classroom, a grade level, a school, several schools, or the Beresford School District. Applicants may be one or more teachers, a group of teachers/staff, a teacher-parent group, or another Beresford School District employee group.

Innovative education grants can be:

> A new or innovative technology tool that incorporates 21st century learning skills for students, a school or classroom;

> A one-time event or experience that offers students a unique experience that would not otherwise be available; or

> An immediate impact grant that boosts a program or activity to another level.

Grant recipients may find it helpful to develop grants with other educators, team members, and/or their building principal.

Guidelines

Grants can be from $50 to $1000.

The full cost of the grant may be funded by the Foundation alone or in partnership with another donor that you identify. You do not need to have another donor to apply.

One person or several persons may apply for the grant. One of the lead applicants must be a Beresford School District employee. List all persons who are applying for the grant.

Grant applications need to describe the project clearly and specifically. Use the "Innovative Education Grant Criteria" chart on the next page to guide you. Inclusion of graphs, drawings, descriptive materials, catalog pictures and pricing are suggested. Remember that non-

educators as well as educators will be reading the application. Applications are not limited to one page.

Principals or building leaders involved in the grant need to be consulted about the grant application. This is to avoid duplication and to assure that the project cost cannot be funded from the regular school budget.

The budgeted costs must be reasonable, allowable, and cost effective for the activity proposed.

Application Process

Application materials can be found at www.beresford.k12.sd.us. Click on the "Community" tab and then click on the "Watchdog Education Foundation" tab.

Applications may be sent electronically to the Foundation at Brian.Field@k12.sd.us, mailed or delivered to the Foundation at Beresford School District, 301 West Maple Street, Beresford, SD 57004.

Application may be made any time before 4:00 p.m. on the deadline date.

Notification that the application has been awarded or declined will follow in a timely manner.

Upon Receipt of the Grant

Grantees will provide a written summary of the use and effectiveness of the grant after one year of use and feedback on the project at the end of three years.

Grantees must agree and provide an expense report for all gifts equal to or greater than $500.

Grantees will be asked to inform parents and colleagues about the project and acknowledge the WEF as donor.

Grantees may be asked to provide information, news articles and photos for the Foundation's marketing purposes.

All materials purchased with Foundation funds must stay within the district but may move with the grant recipient within the district's schools.

Grantees shall use the Foundation funds solely for the purpose requested.

Grantees shall agree to return any unused funds to the Foundation within one month after the project period is finished. In doing this, please notify the business office of the amount not needed.

Selection Process

A granting committee, comprised of community and Foundation board members, will review the grant applications. Criteria the board may consider in the review includes, but is not limited to, the following:

Rubric for Classroom/Curriculum Related Grant Criteria

Objectives	Low Performance 0 Points	At or Below Average 1 Point	At or Above Average 2 Points	Exemplary Performance 3 Points	Earned Points
The grant application is complete. All answers are thorough and the deadline for application is met.	**0 points** The grant application is not complete. The deadline is not met.	**1 point** The grant application is complete (although answers are short). The deadline is not met.	**2 points** The grant application is complete and it appears that grantee took adequate time to answer the questions. Deadline is met.	**3 points** The grant application is complete and answers are very thorough. Grantee took extra time to write out the application. Deadline is met.	
The grant is innovative and the grantee explains how this innovation follows the curriculum.	**0 points** The grant is neither innovative nor creative.	**1 point** The grant is creative, but does not relate to the curriculum.	**2 points** The grant is creative and relates to the curriculum.	**3 points** The grant is highly innovative and enhances the curriculum in a new and creative way. There is possibility for replication and sustainability across the curriculum.	
The grant has a high impact on student learning.	**0 points** The grant does not impact student learning.	**1 point** The grant does impact student learning, although few students are involved in the project.	**2 points** The grant involves the entire classroom and impacts student learning.	**3 points** The grant shows high impact on student learning and will make a difference in students attaining curriculum goals. The grantee is willing to share the success of student learning.	
The project has a strong evaluation component related to student	**0 points** The project cannot be evaluated for student learning.	**1 point** The project has an evaluation component, but little evidence of student	**2 points** The evaluation component is met adequately for student success.	**3 points** There is a strong evaluation component to measure the project's success.	

learning.		learning will take place.		The grantee is willing to share the success with other teachers.	
The grant has adequate research related to funding of the project and the funding amount falls within the funding guidelines.	**0 points** The grant does not list the funding amount needed.	**1 point** The grant does not list a researched amount, but an approximate amount.	**2 points** The grant falls within the amount allocated and is fairly accurate. There is not an attached component to give the grantors more information needed.	**3 points** The grant has been thoroughly researched and the grantee attached amount/description/ pictures of items needed from catalogues, etc. The funding amount requested falls within the amount allowed.	
				Score:	