



September 12, 2019

Dear Worthington Educator:

The Worthington Educational Foundation (WEF) is a non-profit organization that partners with the Worthington School District by providing grants that benefit our schools and students. Applications may be submitted by any staff member of the Worthington School District. Successful grant projects will add value to students but aren't in conflict with the current curriculum. Attached are a few examples of recent successful grant applications. A more complete list of recent grant awards can be found at <http://www.worthingtoneducationalfoundation.org/>.

The goal of the WEF is to fund projects that support and enhance, but do not duplicate the educational programs of the Worthington School District. There is no specific monetary limit on the size of award. Funds may be requested for projects that provide direct benefit to students and for materials and equipment not routinely supplied by the district or building. The WEF will not fund requests for food, transportation, or other consumables, or for performance contracts for district staff. Requests for flexible seating, fidget equipment, iPads or Smart Boards will also not be funded.

Applications are due Monday, October 21, by submission to [wefgrants@gmail.com](mailto:wefgrants@gmail.com). Printed applications will NOT be accepted. Please note that a review and signature is required by your Building Principal and District Administrator (Kim Brown, Director of Special Education, Neil Gupta, Director of Secondary Education, or Patrick Callaghan, Director of Elementary Education). All requests for review by the District Administrator should be sent to the appropriate person by Monday, October 7.

All applicants will be informed of the Board's funding decisions by Monday, November 25. Successful applicants will receive checks at the school board meeting on December 9. Checks will be made payable to Worthington Schools with the grant title in the memo section of the check. Funds must be deposited in your school's account, and all purchases must be made through the Purchase Order process.

The WEF Board may offer to fund only specific parts your proposal. If your project has another funding partner, such as a PTA or other source, be sure to indicate this in your Budget Narrative. Proposals for basic classroom equipment will only be funded if you can make a strong case that the equipment is essential to implementing district curriculum in an innovative way that is new to the district.

Questions can be directed to [wefgrants@gmail.com](mailto:wefgrants@gmail.com). Again, the goal of the Board of the WEF is to fund innovative projects that are evolutionary changes and enrich the students or families in Worthington.

Sincerely,

Bethany Moore  
Chair, Grants Allocation Committee

*Mission: Partnering with the Worthington School District to help district staff experiment with emerging trends, conduct action research, and provide experiential learning for students, parents and/or the community.*



## **Recent Examples of Successful Grant Applications**

### **Outdoor Immersive Learning Space**

Submitted by Colonial Hills Elementary School

This outdoor learning space will support the curriculum and provide hands-on learning experiences. An outdoor structure includes a long table for demonstrations, instruction and whole-class collaboration. Teachers can “book the space” during the school day as an extension of their typical classroom.

### **Mindfulness Matters**

Submitted by Worthington Estates Elementary School

Funds will be utilized to purchase materials for a yoga program. All other students will be taught the basics of practicing mindfulness during guidance lessons. Students will be given a survey before the first session in order to determine the specific needs, then a more in-depth survey will be provided at the end to determine what the students have learned. Other teachers at the school will have full access to the products for their classrooms.

### **Using i-Ready Math to Meet Individual Student Needs**

Submitted by Liberty Elementary School

The iReady online program, used in tandem with our current curriculum resources can help teachers quickly and efficiently identify the specific standard with which students may be struggling. Specific practice sets and short-cycle assessments can be utilized to fill those gaps and provide students with a deeper mathematical understanding. The iReady Math Program will be piloted for one year with all students across all tiers. This information will be shared at the building and district level in order to determine additional grade-level or building implementation.

### **"Weather" or Not to Use Live Data to Make Predictions**

Submitted by Worthingway Middle School

Students will learn about weather elements, weather influences and climate change by utilizing a live weather station. Data will be collected and utilized regularly in all seventh grade science classes to support the learning about global climate patterns through local weather study. The product also allows a live weather report to be added to the school's homepage.

### **Windows into Others' Lives and Mirrors into Our Own**

Submitted by Worthingway Middle School

Books purchased will provide an opportunity look through a window into someone else's life and see through their eyes. Five copies of each title will be purchased so groups can read a common self-selected book then have group discussion. The ELA staff will take turns including these titles in their monthly book talks.

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## Worthington Educational Foundation

### Grant Application

**Due Date: Monday, October 21, 2019**

Teacher(s): \_\_\_\_\_

School Building: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Grant: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount of Request: \_\_\_\_\_

I. **Type of grant.** Please check which type of grant you are applying for:

\_\_\_\_\_ Path A: **Emerging trends:** These grants are available to teachers who want to implement research or evidence-based practice as a pilot. Teachers who receive these grants are expected to share their results with colleagues. Further, teachers should work with administration on a sustainability plan to continue the programming after the pilot period. WEF places a priority on funding programs that can be sustained and scaled.

\_\_\_\_\_ Path B: **Action research:** These grants are available to teachers who want to perform action research in their classrooms to test ideas and trends. Teachers who receive these grants are expected to write a final paper to share at conferences and throughout the district.

\_\_\_\_\_ Path C: **Experiential learning:** These grants fund short term events or programs that enrich the lives of students, their parents and the community. Teachers who receive these grants are expected to take photographs and write content to help publicize the event or program.

II. **Length of grant** (can be for more than one year)

Start Date \_\_\_\_\_ through End Date \_\_\_\_\_

III. **Description of project:** Provide a 250-300-word description of your project. Make sure to explain clearly what you plan to do, the primary target audience and secondary audiences.

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- IV. **Quality of your idea:** Provide a 250-300-word justification that your plan is beneficial, best practice and/or research/evidence based.
- V. **Impact:** What impact do you expect this program to have? Describe metrics or evaluative tools you will use to determine success of project. What is the specific and measurable outcomes?
- VI. **Budget narrative/Timeline:** Explain how you will spend the funds and when. Provide a timeline and explanation of costs. If there are other funding sources that you are seeking or have already procured, please explain.
- VII. **Sustainability/follow up:** How are you planning to sustain your program (Path A only)? How will you use this program to enrich what you are doing in the classroom? (ex. If you have a speaker, how will you connect the topics to what students are learning in your classroom?)
- VIII. **Signatures:** Please read the following statement and sign that you have read and understand WEF's expectations if your program is funded.

I agree to use the funds for the program described in this application. I will provide a final written report or video to WEF and discuss the outcomes of this project at one of their board meetings if asked. The final report must include a summary of what happened and any related artifacts, receipts and evidence of how the budget was spent including copies of the Purchase Orders and invoices, and the specific impact. I will also seek opportunities to share my program and outcomes with colleagues through staff meetings, board meetings or conferences.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**District Support:** Please have your school principal and district administrator (Director of Special Education, Elementary or Secondary Education) read your grant and the following statement and sign that s/he understands and supports the grant program and requirements.

I have read this grant application and support the programming. If funded, the funds will be spent entirely on this project. In the event that some or all of the funds are not spent, I will notify the WEF before the end of the grant period. If this application is a Path A application, I certify our intention to support and sustain the programming after the pilot period for at least two years.

\_\_\_\_\_  
School Principal's signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
District Administrator's Signature

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