

Sumner-Bonney Lake Education Foundation

Innovative Teaching Grants

Grant Application Packet for Staff

The Sumner-Bonney Lake Education Foundation is expanding their influence beyond scholarships to teaching grants for the teachers, principals, and staff members of the Sumner-Bonney Lake School District. **Funding is up to \$1,000.00 per project and no project is too small!** We look forward to seeing what innovative ideas you come up with! Keep scrolling to find the application, budget form and some tips to bring your project to the forefront of the applications.

Timeline

August 5	Applications available
October 1	Applications DUE by 5PM
November	Selections are made by the Board of Directors
December	Awards presented

Innovative Teaching Grants Guidelines

Purpose:

Innovative teaching grants are designed to encourage, facilitate, recognize and reward innovative and creative instructional approaches to the accomplishment of program objectives. The Sumner-Bonney Lake Education Foundation is offering teachers and administrators the opportunity to apply for grants that support innovative programs or projects to support higher levels of student learning. The grants must enhance student academic performance and support the objective, goals and initiatives of the School Improvement Plan.

Persons Eligible to Apply for a Grant:

Individuals or teams of individuals employed by the SBLSD who are involved in the instruction of students or any related support services benefitting students.

Eligible Proposals:

Instructional approaches or projects designed to be used during the current school year and which meet the selection criteria. Grants may fund instructional and classroom materials, parent involvement programs, or any activity or material which supports higher levels of student academic achievement.

Award of Funds:

Grants will be awarded to teacher-initiated programs or projects at the elementary, middle, and high school level. Grants will be awarded to school teams, departments, and district-initiated programs or projects at the same levels. The number of awards will depend on funds available from the Foundation. Prior grant recipients are eligible for continued funding but must reapply and go through the same selection criteria.

Selection Criteria:

- The degree to which the grant supports the District goals and the School Improvement Plan and is specifically designed to address an area of need substantiated by data.
- The degree to which student academic performance is emphasized.
- The degree to which sound evaluation procedures are incorporated in the proposal.
- The degree to which the proposal represents a creative or innovative approach to the accomplishment of objectives. Funds are not typically available for recurring programs/projects. (The proposal should address a new project as opposed to one accomplished or underway.)
- The degree to which the proposal is clear and logical, including (a) specificity of objectives; (b) clarity of description of instructional procedures, methods, or treatments; and (c) correspondence among evaluative procedures, objectives, and treatments.
- **Special attention will be paid to projects serving underserved populations.**

Selection Process:

1. Application forms may be obtained online through the Foundation webpage, sblef.org.
2. Teacher initiated applications must be reviewed and signed off by the school principal for congruence with school programs. The signature form may be uploaded in the application.
3. Applications will be reviewed and commented on by the Grant Application Review Committee made up of Foundation board members and district directors.
4. If recommended for approval, the application will be presented to the Board of Directors of the Foundation in summary form for review and approval.
5. Once approved by the Foundation Board of Directors, the application will be collectively presented to the SBLSD Board of Directors for formal acceptance of the grant funds.
6. Applicants will be notified of decisions by the date specified by the committee.

Responsibilities of the Grant Recipient:

- Use the award for the purposes intended.
- Project must be fully implemented and final report submitted to the Foundation by the end of the school year the grant was awarded.
- Agree to share with colleagues successful procedures in the appropriate format.

When applying for a grant, please remember the following:

- Grants are to be used to fund projects that cannot be provided for by the school and District budgets.
- Objectives and outcomes should be consistent with the goals of your school and the District.
- When creating your budget, research carefully and be realistic. Small grants are just as likely to be awarded as large grants. Partial funding will be considered. Funds will not be awarded for budgeted items available from District resources.
- Projects awarded must be fully implemented by the end of the school year.
- A **Progress Report** will be required to be presented to the Foundation Board during a regularly scheduled board meeting. Recipients will be notified at least two (2) weeks in advance.

Tips for a Successful Application

Statement of Need:

- Describe the area of student achievement you wish to address and give any data that supports the need. Please include how this grant addresses District and School Improvement Plans.
- Keep the statement simple and straightforward.
- Show how the project relates to the District/School Improvement Plans.
- Applications cannot be considered which require the purchasing of technology that is not compatible with existing infrastructure.
- **How this project supports underserved populations.**
- Student prizes or incentives will not be considered (i.e. gift cards).

Objectives:

- Limit the number of objectives.
- Imply or state evaluation in the statement of objectives.
- Be specific.

Description of Proposed Project/Activity:

- Describe the problem, need, or issue addressed.
- Show how the project supports the purpose.
- List steps to be followed in project implementation.
- Relate project to need and objectives.
- Be specific.

What we CANNOT fund:

- **We will not fund substitutes to cover staff positions.**
- **We will not fund staff salaries**
- **We will not fund curriculum materials that need to be replenished annually.**

Evaluation:

- Relate to stated objectives.
- Indicate how you will know whether the project was successful.

Partners:

- Are there others who will participate in this project? (Rotary, Lion's Club, etc.)
- What will their roles be?