



Foundation Innovation Award

The Foundation for Excellence trustees are pleased to announce that the Foundation is giving \$30,000 in Foundation Innovation Award grants for the 2008-2009 school year. Each of the district's 30 campuses will receive \$1,000 to use as they see fit for projects or programs developed at each location.

The Foundation Innovation Award is given with the intent to promote excellence and achievement for learners, to encourage innovation in the teaching and learning process and to enhance collaboration between the foundation and the greater community. The trustees have designed this award with minimal guidelines in order to empower each school to put the funds to the highest and best use based on the uniqueness of each campus.

The Foundation Innovation Award will provide extra resources above and beyond district funds so that a goal, project or idea that up to now has only been a dream can become a reality. The Foundation Innovation Award recognizes that each campus has plans and goals that uniquely suit the population, needs and interests of that campus. The Foundation for Excellence trustees want to partner with the staff members of our district's 30 schools by providing funds for learning experiences that enhance, enrich and extend the quality learning already taking place in our classrooms.

Trustees are hopeful that the Foundation Innovation Award will give each campus the extra resources to carry out learning experiences that would otherwise not be possible. The Foundation for Excellence is able to make this generous \$30,000 gift available to District 202 through the generous donations of individuals and businesses, through the participation of staff members enrolled in the \$2.02 for 202 payroll deduction plan, parents who participated in the registration fund drive and through the many fundraising events that the Foundation holds throughout the year.



Foundation Innovation Award Guidelines

Foundation for Excellence trustees have intentionally kept the guidelines governing the use of the \$1,000 to a minimum in order to empower each school to put the funds to the highest and best use based on the uniqueness of each campus. However, there are a few regulations that each campus will be expected to follow when crafting a project. These are listed below:

1. Each school will receive \$1,000 for use during the 2008-2009 school year.
2. The use of the \$1,000 will be determined by a collaborative committee at each campus.
3. The project is intended to be campus specific taking into account that each school is unique.
4. The Foundation Innovation Award must be used to fund a project or idea that aligns with the mission of the foundation:
 - To promote excellence and achievement for all learners
 - To encourage innovation in the teaching/learning process
 - To enhance collaboration between the foundation and greater community
5. Each building principal will be responsible for submitting a Foundation Innovation Award Summary Sheet to the Foundation for Excellence no later than March 20, 2009.
6. Each school shall inform its parent population and surrounding community about the project or idea being implemented through school communication tools such as building newsletters, PTA/PTO newsletters. The communication will mention that the project was funded by the \$1,000 Foundation Innovation Award given by the Foundation for Excellence.

Foundation Innovation Award Project Ideas

The ideas listed below are intended as “starters” as your collaborative committee begins to think about creative projects that suit the unique needs of the students you serve. This list is not meant to limit your choices; it is offered to spur discussion.

The Foundation Innovation Award could be used for:

- staff development
- parent education
- artist in residence program
- expert scholar in residence program
- action research project
- field trips
- assemblies
- after school events
- innovative ways to deliver instruction



Foundation Innovation Award Summary Sheet

School Name _____

Principal's Name _____

Date _____

Project Summary

Briefly explain how your school used the \$1,000 Foundation Innovation Award.

Project Success

How did the project or purpose your school implemented enhance teaching and learning? Tell us about some of the innovative ideas generated through this project.

Feedback

Did the award make a difference? How did this award help your staff enhance, extend and enrich teaching and learning?

Please return this form to the Foundation by March 20, 2009