

# PENN MANOR EDUCATION FOUNDATION **Spring 16**

## VENTURE GRANTS FOR TEACHERS

*Due on or before February 4, 2016*

### THE PROGRAM

Penn Manor Education Foundation rewards exciting and innovative educational ideas through a Venture Grants Program. Grants will be awarded to enable unique teaching strategies, including artists and educators in residence, to become a reality.

#### THE CONCEPT

Venture grant programs meet two needs. First is the need to bring new resources to bear in the classroom, the focal point of education. Second is the need to break down the school district's isolation from business and civic leaders, from municipal government and from community members who may not have children in the public school system.

Venture grant programs are not a new idea. Their prime goal is to reward teachers with an opportunity to put exciting and often long-cherished ideas into practice. Materials and strategies developed through venture grant projects frequently become part of the school's regular curriculum. The excitement generated by a single grant can influence the learning climate of an entire school.

Venture grants are effective because they put funds directly into the classroom, where they can do the most good.

#### SELECTION

Community members who make up the Penn Manor Education Foundation Awards Committee will review all applications. Based on the availability of funds, the projects will be chosen on a competitive basis. The PMSD administration will review all the projects for appropriateness.

The Foundation Board of Directors will give final approval to all funded projects.

Interested teachers should fill out the application carefully. Each project will be reviewed with respect to the following criteria:

1. Is the project innovative and curriculum-related?
2. Is the proposed project clearly stated? Are the goals realistic and worthwhile?
3. Are the procedures to be followed clearly described? Are the methods, needed materials, resource personnel, tentative schedule and completion date specified?
4. Is the budget request reasonable and sufficiently detailed? All proposals must include an itemized budget.
5. Could this project be funded through the regular PMSD budget?
6. Does the project have the potential to involve the community in some way?
7. Can this project become part of the regular curriculum? Does it have the potential to affect large numbers of pupils?

#### APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Interested applicants should complete the following process:

1. Think of a project you would like to try in your classroom. You may wish to work with other teachers, administrators, and/or parents. Involve the students; get their ideas.
2. Calculate the cost of the project. Obtain prices for the materials and supplies you'll need.
3. Carefully complete the application form.
4. Submit your signed venture grant application to Brian Wallace in the district office.

#### **Funded projects must be completed by June 30, 2017.**

If you have questions or need further information, please call Brian Wallace (872-9500 ext. 2241).

**You do not need to submit this cover sheet with your application**



5. Detail your budget request. In the event Venture Grant funding is limited, can this project be partially funded? If so, provide those details. Include specific information on the materials and equipment needed, supply sources, shipping, etc. **Be sure to include all costs.** Because Penn Manor Education Foundation, and not the school district, is providing these funds, you **cannot** use the district's purchase-order system. Please contact the vendors directly. If you need a tax-exempt certificate, please contact Brian Wallace. The PMEF tax-exempt number is 75-55208-2.

ITEM

SUPPLIER

COST

I have verified this project cannot be funded through my classroom, department or building budget

\_\_\_\_\_  
APPLICANT SIGNATURE

\_\_\_\_\_  
DEPARTMENT HEAD SIGNATURE

\_\_\_\_\_  
BUILDING PRINCIPAL SIGNATURE

\_\_\_\_\_  
TECHNOLOGY DIRECTOR SIGNATURE  
(If technology is part of your project)

Return your original signed venture grant proposal form by **Feb. 4, 2016**, to:

Brian Wallace  
PMEF Venture Grants  
District Office