PPSD Cares: Round Two Classroom Boost Grants for Teachers

Classroom Boost Grants for Teachers are designed to help teachers put innovative ideas into action, from classroom projects to guest speakers to field trips. Up to $5,000 per teacher is available to help fund classroom activities that support one of the following aims:

• Encouraging deeper learning in a subject area, with the goal of improving academic outcomes.
• Honoring cultural diversity in the classroom, with the goal of nurturing inclusion and identity.
• Embedding social emotional learning into the school day, with the goal of building a culture of empathy, self-management and team building.

These efforts are more urgent now that we must recovery learning lost during the pandemic. They are also aligned with the ground-breaking work of the community-designed Turnaround Action Plan, which sets clear expectations for district transformation in the areas of Excellence in Learning, Engaged Communities and World-Class Talent.

Eligibility
Teachers may submit grants individually or as a team of up to five members, with grants of up to $25,000 ($5K per team member). As part of the Round Two Classroom Boost Grants, teachers awarded partial funding during Round One may apply for the remainder of their eligible funding, based on the size of their team. Teachers whose Classroom Boost proposals were not funded during Round One are urged to work with the appropriate PPSD offices and resubmit for Round Two. Those teachers whose grants were fully funded in Round One are not eligible to apply for a Round Two Classroom Boost Grant.

Application
The Classroom Boost application is online at https://forms.gle/5AYdJmwV8XMFdTGs9
To apply, teachers must provide the following:
1. Details of your proposal, including a timeline of specific actions steps you will use to implement your idea.
2. A list of requested purchases and estimated costs. (Note: Purchases must follow PPSD's procurement processes. If you are recommending a particular vendor, service or speaker, please provide additional information on why this is should be a sole source purchase.)
3. The goal you are addressing and how your strategy will influence this goal. For example, a social studies teacher who wishes to host a visit from an actor who performs as an historic figure should explain how this is encouraging deeper learning in students to support a specific unit. Will they be writing responses? Produce their own reenactments to be performed in class?
5. Indicators or metrics to determine if the strategy is producing results. Please include the number of students you believe your grant will impact.

Scoring
Grants will be scored by committee on the following areas:
• Innovation—How will your strategy make a difference? Is it an idea that others can model?
• Alignment—How does the plan align with one or more of the goals articulated in the Turnaround Action Plan?
• Implementation—Is the plan actionable?
• Impact—How will you be able to measure the positive consequences of your work?

All grants must be approved by the school principal before submission. Grants will be awarded based on ranked scores, with the goal of distributing grants equally among elementary, middle and high schools.

Deadline: Applications are due by 12 noon on August 25, 2021. Awards will be announced in September 2021. Funds must be expended by September 1, 2022.

Questions?
Please email ppsdcare@ppsd.org with any questions. Answers to emails received by August 2, 2021 will be shared by close of business on August 16, 2021.