



## **Classroom Innovation Grant Application (formerly Venture Grants)**

**Deadline - October 27, 2010**

### **Overview**

The information that you will include in the attached application form will provide the LPEF Grants Committee with the data needed to determine whether or not to fund your project. Applications may be from staff, students, parents or community members who partner with School District of La Crosse staff. Applications for other opportunities with the Foundation are available for download on our website at [www.lpefonline.org](http://www.lpefonline.org).

### **Guidelines**

- Grants must serve the students in the School District of La Crosse.
- Projects must be innovative, creative and new funding initiatives within the School District of La Crosse.
- The grant may be denied if another funding source might be more appropriate.
- Project funds must be spent by May of 2012.
- Interim and final reports will be required.
- Payments for services of La Crosse School District employees are prohibited.

### **Criteria**

Applications will be reviewed on a competitive basis by the Grants Committee of the La Crosse Public Education Foundation. Priority is given for Classroom Innovation Grants that:

- meet multiple educational objectives
- align with district/school/curricular goals
- impact a variety of students and/or schools
- are collaborative
- are sustainable

Please see the Classroom Innovation Grant evaluation rubric for the grant proposal evaluation criteria. Although most applications are worthy of awarding, the committee has limited funding and must set priorities that help the foundation fulfill its mission.

### **Instructions**

- € Complete the following grant application.
- € Save as a Word document. Name the document the same name as your grant proposal.
- € Print page 1 of the application. Sign and obtain other necessary signatures. Submit a paper copy of page 1 to the La Crosse Public Education Foundation at Hogan via inter-school mail or by mail to P.O. Box 1811, La Crosse, WI 54602-1811.
- € Submit the entire application electronically to [lpef@centurytel.net](mailto:lpef@centurytel.net).
- € Both the paper copy and electronic copy must be received no later than 5:00 p.m. on October 22, 2010.

If you have questions, please contact Geva Thole at 608-397-0176.



**La Crosse Public Education Foundation  
Classroom Innovation Grant Application**

**Section 1: Personal Information:**

Name : Rick Stewart, Richard Frost, Gar Amunson (Superintendent of Parks)

School: Lincoln Middle, Longfellow Middle, City of La Crosse Parks Dept.,

Position/Title: Teacher Lincoln Middle, Teacher Longfellow Middle, Superintendent of Parks

School Phone: 789-7780 ext. 5122 Work 784-7277 Home

**Section 2: Basic Project Information:**

Project Title: Equipment for District Wide Community Service

Total Request \$ 2560

Signature of Applicant \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Principal \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of IT Department Rep (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

The intention of the Foundation is to fund projects not covered by the regular school budget. Please document that regular avenues of funding have been exhausted. (i.e. requests to Principal and curriculum supervisors)

**Section 3: Project Description:**

I. Multiple schools will assist in trail maintenance and improvement of public lands resulting in improved facilities for the citizens of the coulee region, and providing an opportunity for young people to give back to their community. Students and teachers from the entire school district will be invited to volunteer to improve the Myrick Hixon Eco Park and surrounding forest and wetlands. Individual volunteer teachers from each building will be assigned as building representatives and trained in how to manage equipment and set up a volunteer workday for any class in their respective buildings. Outreach to UWL, Viterbo, and WTC will bring in older students for jobs that are beyond the capabilities of students from La Crosse Schools. LPEF funding will provide the equipment needed to carry this community service project into the future.

II.

Objectives of Project	List the corresponding district/school/curriculum goals (if applicable)	State how you will evaluate whether objectives are met.
Increase student contribution to community through community service.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ensure programs are designed to develop the student as a whole. (School Board Mission)</li> <li>2. Students will contribute effectively to local, national and global communities (District Mission)</li> <li>3. Students will show commitment to their choices, values, beliefs (Board Ends Policies – Involved Citizenship)</li> </ol>	<p>Number of student volunteers, and number of hours worked.</p> <p>Student feedback to teachers.</p>
Provide improved recreational facilities for students and citizens.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Students will successfully manage personal resources (Board Ends Policies – Responsible Life Choices)</li> <li>2. Students will practice good stewardship towards the environment. (Board Ends Policies – Involved Citizenship)</li> </ol>	<p>Student and teacher interviews.</p> <p>Number of projects successfully completed</p>

III.

Activities to Accomplish Objectives	Who Will Be Responsible for Implementation	Resources Needed (not financial)	Timeframe to Accomplish
Involve middle school students with trail maintenance and volunteer work.	Teachers: Rick Stewart and Richard Frost	1. Commitment and cooperation from City of La Crosse. 2. Commitment from middle level teachers.	1. Already accomplished.  2. June, 2011
Involve elementary and high school students with trail maintenance and volunteer work.	Teachers: Stewart and Frost, eventually volunteer teachers from each school	1. Commitment and cooperation from City of La Crosse. 2. Commitment from elementary and high school teachers.	1. Already accomplished.  2. December, 2011
Involve the colleges and universities in La Crosse with trail maintenance and volunteer work.	Initially, Stewart and Frost, eventually, personnel from WTC, UWL, Viterbo.	1. Commitment and cooperation from City of La Crosse. 2. Commitment from post-secondary personnel.	1. Already accomplished.  2. May, 2012

IV. What is the lifespan of this project? Long term, this equipment should last many years, probably decades.

V. Approximately how many students will be affected by this project? Explain your number. At least 200 will be involved by May, 2011. The goal is to have 500-1000 students from La Crosse Schools involved by May of 2012, and an additional (undetermined) number of students from UWL, Viterbo, and WTC participating by the summer of 2012. Potentially, over 1000 students will participate. The secondary goal is to maintain the commitment from teachers and institutions over a long period of time.

VI. Please state how you will collaborate with...

Other organizations in the community (if applicable)

1. Myrick Hixon Eco Park – Stephanie Hanna, Naturalist, will assist in listing projects to be accomplished, and keeping the appropriate department heads apprised of actions.
2. City Trails Committee – Rick Stewart will attend some meetings to determine which jobs need to be accomplished and organize the equipment and materials for each.
3. City of La Crosse Parks Dept. will provide personnel to deliver tools to the work sites, materials such as wood chips and rock.
4. Viterbo, UWL, WTC - athletic teams and student organizations will be invited to volunteer.

Other schools in the district (if applicable)

Effort will be made to involve at least one teacher from each school in the district.

All middle schools Coulee Montessori, Lincoln, Logan, Longfellow and SOTA II – some teachers have already committed to the project. This will be the starting point.  
 Elementary – as many as can be included (depending on response to request for teacher-volunteers)  
 Schools that do not provide a volunteer this year will receive requests again the following year.  
 Both high schools – athletic teams, clubs, and volunteer groups will be invited.

Other departments/classrooms (if applicable)  
 Viterbo University, Western State College, University of Wisconsin-La Crosse - athletic teams, clubs, and volunteer groups will be invited to participate.

VII. What will happen to the project at the conclusion of the grant? If it is to continue, how will it be sustained? Once the equipment has been purchased, there will be minimal expense for the project. The sustainability depends on the willingness of teachers and community volunteers to continually increase the level of involvement of their students.

VIII. How could the project be shared with other teachers and schools to benefit more students? This project will be open to all teachers, schools, and students. Eventually, one or two teachers from each school will be asked to continue as the main organizer/coordinator for their building.

**Section 4: Budget Information:**

Item	Supplier	Budgeted Amount
15 Slings (stretchers) to carry wood chips	Foster Awning and Canvas	\$1035
Hand tools (saws, loppers, shovels, rakes, picks)	Ace of La Crosse	\$680
Trees and shrubs	Five Oaks Nursery	\$845
Rock, gravel, wood chips	City of La Crosse	Donated at no cost to schools

Total request: \$ 2560

Other sources of funding for this project (if applicable):

1. Possible matching grant from La Crosse Schools Science Curriculum Director Larry Myhra up to \$300.
2. Storage and delivery of supplies, tools, materials provided by City of La Crosse at no cost. Maintenance of equipment provided by teacher-volunteers and City of La Crosse.

Total budget to accomplish project: \$ \$2560

**Section 5: Summary:**

How will this project bring visibility to LPEF in the community?

Hundreds of families will be involved in the volunteer work aspect of the project. Hopefully, hundreds of college students will also volunteer. The Myrick Hixon Eco Park newsletter will feature the project. Local media will be called and teachers will demonstrate how the new equipment is benefitting the forest and the community in the hands of student volunteers. All participants (teachers and students and community organizations) will be reminded LPEF funded the project.

Please provide a one paragraph summary of your project including an explanation of why we should fund your project.

A limited number of classroom teachers have brought their classes to work in Myrick Hixon Eco Park for a day or a half-day as a community service project. This has proven to be a huge boon to the park and forest, the city workers, and the many people who use the Myrick Hixon Eco Park. This LPEF project will create a district wide opportunity for all teachers and students, and provide an opportunity for college students to give something back to the community of La Crosse. Two middle school teachers will begin by recruiting volunteers from all three middle schools to bring their class to Myrick Hixon Eco Park for one day of volunteer service. In year two, outreach to elementary schools classes and high school groups will bring in more student volunteers. Finally, athletic teams and student organizations from the three colleges will be invited to volunteer. The management of equipment will be handled by Rick Stewart of Lincoln Middle, and Gar Amunson, Superintendent of Parks for the City of La Crosse. Students will haul woodchips on the trails to slow erosion, haul rock and gravel, trim the brush around trails, cut out invasive species, remove graffiti, plant native species, and generally improve the environment. Funding this project will provide the opportunity for hundreds of students to be involved in community service for tens of thousands of hours. It is good for the children, good for the ecopark, and good for the community.