



## 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 : Kellie Schmitz

School: Longfellow

Position/Title: 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Language Arts Teacher

School Phone: 789-7670

**Section 2: Basic Project Information:**

Project Title: Community Connection

Total Request \$5380.00

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. By \_\_\_ Spring Semester of 2010-2011, students will engage in community connections through service learning\_\_\_\_\_,resulting in taking action in a leadership role by giving their time, talents, and resources to make a difference in our community by documenting, journaling, reflecting, and compiling their learnings instantaneously through the use of ipads.

II.

Objectives of Project	List the corresponding district/school/curriculum goals (if applicable)	State how you will evaluate whether objectives are met.
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Engage students in the lifelong practice of volunteering.</li> <li>2. Improve the community they live in.</li> <li>3. Learn about and value the community's natural resources.</li> </ol>	<p>Longfellow's site plan is <b>Engagement-Relationships-Learning</b>. Keeping these core essentials as our goals, students will form relationships and be engaged with community organizations as well as learn the importance of their value in the community. This project allows all students to show their talents and celebrate their unique qualities with others.</p> <p><b>District Mission:</b></p> <p>Students will discover their talents and abilities and will be prepared to pursue their dreams and aspirations while contributing effectively to their local, national and global communities.</p>	<p>Journals will reflect upon the work they do and their thoughts about volunteering and appreciation and connectedness to the natural resources of the community.</p>
<p>4. Engage and educate students in the use of new technology and communicate their learnings, preparing them for the 21<sup>st</sup></p>	<p>Longfellow's goals are:            Students will strive for mutual understanding as contributing citizens in a diverse world.            Students will acquire the</p>	<p>Students will present their experiences and learnings using a variety of formats such as iphoto, garageband, and imovie through the use of ipads to show the value</p>

<p>Century workforce.</p>	<p>knowledge and skills necessary to make effective and responsible life choices.</p> <p>Longfellow's school goals for success are the continuous, seamless use of technology to aid our students in communicating with their world.</p> <p>Language Arts Common Core Standards of Wisconsin in the strands of Writing and Speaking state that students should :</p> <p>W.8.3. Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, relevant descriptive details, and well-structured event sequences.</p> <p>W.8.5. With some guidance and support from peers and adults, develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on how well purpose and audience have been addressed.</p> <p>W.8.6. Use technology, including the Internet, to produce and publish writing and present the relationships between information and ideas efficiently as well as to interact and collaborate with others.</p> <p>SL.8.4. Present claims and findings, emphasizing salient points in a focused, coherent manner with relevant evidence, sound valid reasoning, and well-chosen details; use appropriate eye contact, adequate volume, and clear pronunciation.</p> <p>SL.8.5. Integrate multimedia and visual displays into presentations to clarify information, strengthen claims and evidence, and add interest.</p>	<p>and importance of volunteering and working in the community.</p>
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III.

Activities to Accomplish Objectives	Who Will Be Responsible for Implementation	Resources Needed (not financial)	Timeframe to Accomplish
Students brainstormed service projects they would like to organize and the community organizations with whom they would like to contact.	Teachers and students in the City Pod at Longfellow Middle School.		This was already done in September of 2010
Students take field trips in the Coulee region to gain an appreciation of the land and natural resources.	Teachers and students in the City Pod at Longfellow Middle School.		Some field trips already completed. Begin planning and contacting community organizations to set dates for field trips in the Spring.
Establish a Council of students in the City Pod at Longfellow Middle School who will organize the service projects that they will partake in.	Teachers and students in the City Pod at Longfellow Middle School.	Time before or after school with students who would like to participate in the Council.	The Council will be established in November of 2010 and will begin contacting organizations.
Order ipads and cases.	Teachers in the City Pad	Contact with apple.com company and the IT department at the La Crosse School District.	December or January
Students will choose the service project they would like to participate in and collaborate with other students interested in the project. They would then contact the community organization and establish the objectives of the project.	Teachers and students in the City Pod at Longfellow Middle School		Projects and volunteering will take place in the Spring (probably in April to coordinate our volunteering with Earth Day and Neighborhood Day).
Once ipads arrive, provide instruction and expectations about the care of each ipad, teach students the different functions and features the ipads have, establish specific criteria that students will have to	Teachers in the City Pod at Longfellow Middle School and district IT personnel.	Time in classes to teach students about the ipads.	As soon as the ipads arrive and are connected to our system.

document while on the field trips.			
Students will reflect, journal and document their experiences explaining the value of protecting and persevering the area's natural resources as well as discussing the necessity of helping others in the community.	Students in the City Pod	Time during the day for field trips and reflection.	Spring Semester

IV. What is the lifespan of this project?

The lifespan of this project should be ongoing until the ipad technology becomes outdated. As each school year begins, we have new 8<sup>th</sup> graders in the City Pod. Therefore, these students will brainstorm the service projects they want to be involved in, contact those organizations, and volunteer their time. Ipads will be used the following years to record, document, journal, compile and help display the learnings and experiences of the students.

V. Approximately how many students will be affected by this project? Explain your number.

This project will affect all the students in the City Pod and possibly other students within the school district depending on the service projects that the students decide to be involved in. Therefore, at least 105 students in the City Pod would benefit from this grant. This number will vary from year to year based on enrollment.

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

Other organizations in the community (if applicable)

We would like to establish relationships with a variety of community organizations which would like volunteers to help complete projects they are in need of. The City Pod would like to have at least ten different groups of students each working on a different service project in the community. Some of the volunteer projects that students have stated an interest in are: volunteering at the Humane Society, picking up trash in parks, adopting a highway, staining the Kids Coulee Playground at Myrick Park, volunteering at the Salvation Army, having a food drive for WAFER, planting trees, cleaning up a Hixon trail, visiting and spending time with residents at nursing homes, and creating a Read Across America Day project for young children. As soon as the council of students meets, we will be able to begin contacting organizations in the community.

Other schools in the district (if applicable)

Other schools in the district could be involved if students choose to work on a service project with an early learning center or any other school.

Other departments/classrooms (if applicable)

VII. What will happen to the project at the conclusion of the grant? If it is to continue, how will it be sustained?

At the conclusion of the grant, it is my hope that the City Pod at Longfellow Middle School continues to act as servant leaders in the La Crosse Community and will volunteer each year with various organizations and projects using the ipads as tools to instantaneously record, document, journal, and display all that they have learned and experienced.

VIII. How could the project be shared with other teachers and schools to benefit more students?

At the end of the year, students will display and present their learning and experiences from the service projects and field trips through a multimedia presentation so that others may gain an understanding of the work the students accomplished. We will give the multimedia presentation to students and staff at Longfellow Middle School as well as for any parents or community organizations we worked with. Having ipads to instantaneously document and record their learning while on the field trips and the immediate ability to reflect upon interactions with community organizations will give students the opportunities to communicate the importance of persevering our natural resources and making a difference in our community.

**Section 4: Budget Information:**

Item	Supplier	Budgeted Amount
Ipads	Apple.com	\$4,990.00
Ipad covers	Apple.com	\$390.00

Total request: \$5380.00

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

Total budget to accomplish project: \$5380.00

**Section 5: Summary:**

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

This project will bring visibility to LPEF to the community due to the fact that we will include a news story about this project on the Longfellow Middle School web page as well as the City Pod web page.

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

As a newly formed pod created at Longfellow Middle School, called the City Pod, the teachers would like to establish an identity as a service learning pod with an emphasis on appreciating the natural resources in the La Crosse community. Since we are named the City Pod, we feel it is incredibly important to be connected with organizations in the community and give our eighth graders opportunities

to see the value and importance of volunteering to make it a better place. Besides volunteering, we want our students to reflect, journal and document their experiences during the course of the school year. Having ipads will enable students of all abilities to communicate with students, staff, parents and community members what they are learning during the field trips and service projects. Ipads have special features such as voice activation for recording their thoughts as well as reading back what the students have recorded. These functions allow for all students to learn at their level and contribute to the service projects and multimedia presentation. Also the ipads give students opportunities to immediately document as well as enrich and enhance their experiences and learnings. Therefore, their ideas and thoughts are not forgotten, but instead recorded. As a society that sometimes places too much emphasis on “me,” and not enough on “us,” these service leadership projects will allow our students to be engaged with the community they live in, establish relationships beyond the school building, and learn how working together can positively change the lives of others. Having the technology of the ipads will prepare students for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century workforce and deepen their experiences within our community.