WESTSIDE IMPACT
Impacting the lives of children and
celebrating the accomplishments of teachers
A Showcase of Westside Talent

2021-2022 Westside Impact Teacher
Innovation Proposal Instructions

The Westside Impact Innovation Proposal program is for the certified staff members in the Westside Impact Consortium. This competitive process provides funding for teachers to design and implement exciting learning events designed to enhance and enrich the classroom experience. All proposals must be an\textit{a}) project based, \textit{b}) process based, \textit{or c}) a field test. They must \textit{a}) contain higher order thinking skills, \textit{b}) be aligned to the district’s curriculum map, and \textit{c}) be appropriate for the grade level being considered. There will be two rounds of funding for the Fall Westside Impact Innovation Proposals. Deadline for Round One applications is August 20th; Judging is August 26th.

Teachers are encouraged to work in teams to design innovations that will enhance the learning of all classes/grades involved. Therefore, there will be two categories of Innovation Proposals: 1) Collaborative Innovations & 2) Independent Innovations. Please see WESTSIDE IMPACT COLLABORATIVE INNOVATIONS REQUIREMENTS, starting on Page 2. Collaborative Innovations will be funded up to $1600; Individual Innovations will be funded up to $800.

Proposals cannot be used for salaries or tuition, and only one FUNDED application from an individual or group will be accepted per school year. Duplicate applications from different individuals or groups will be disqualified. A teacher cannot be included on a Collaborative Innovation Proposal if he/she also submits an Independent Innovation Proposal. Supplies and materials purchased from awarded Innovation Proposal funds will stay with the school if the grant recipient leaves that school.

Innovation Proposal and Approval Process

You must use the latest proposal application, which has “6-4-2021” on the bottom left side of each page. Proposals not complying with this requirement will be disqualified.

- Signed proposals are due no later than 4:00 PM on Friday, August 20th. Judging will be on August 26th. Funds should be available by September 7th.

NOTE: Submit proposals to your District Assistant Superintendent or Director of Curriculum. DO NOT send proposals directly to Jan Amator.

- The proposal has four parts:
  1. Cover Sheet
  2. Checklist
  3. Innovation Description
  4. Budget Justification

NOTE: Proposals must remain anonymous during scoring; therefore, there can be NO mention of your district or school in the description and budget. Proposals not complying with this requirement will be disqualified.

PLEASE REFER TO THE ATTACHED RUBRICS FOR THE SCORING CRITERIA. USE THESE RUBRICS AS YOUR GUIDE IN WRITING YOUR PROPOSAL.

Revised 6-4-2021
• **The proposal must be typed using a legible font no smaller than 10 point.** Cover sheets should be attached. **Independent Innovation Proposals** cannot exceed two pages in length; **Collaborative Innovation Proposals** cannot exceed three pages in length. The Budget Justification sheet should clarify all proposed expenditures.

• **Submit the proposal to your principal** for endorsement and approval.

• The Principal will sign the proposal and **forward it to your Curriculum Director or Assistant Superintendent for his/her signature.** Proposals will then be mailed, delivered, or emailed to the Westside Impact Executive Director, Jan Amator, at jan.amator@gmail.com by the due date. Late proposals may not be accepted.

• Innovation funds recipients may be asked to showcase their activity within the school / district and to assess the effectiveness of their activity upon completion.

All teachers, preK-12 grade, are encouraged to apply. An impartial panel of educators made up of Westside Impact members will read the applications and rate them according to the criteria shown below.

If you think you would like to apply but need help starting or if you have any questions, call Jan Amator at (602) 809-8288 or e-mail jan.amator@gmail.com.

**WESTSIDE IMPACT COLLABORATIVE INNOVATIONS REQUIREMENTS**

Collaborative Innovations must include the interaction/collaboration among teachers and may include collaboration among the students in these teachers’ classes.

There are many, many types of interdependent innovations that may include (but not limited to) interdisciplinary thematic units/projects, project-based learning, projects based on multiple sets of data, cross-grade-level mutually beneficial activities. Individual Innovations may include more than one teacher. **The difference between the two categories is that the collaboration innovation must include collaboration between/among the teachers, while the Individual Innovation would only share resources obtained by funding.**

**Definition of terms:**

*Interdependence* is the quality or condition of being interdependent, or mutually reliant on each other.

*Collaboration* is the process of two or more people or organizations working together to complete a task or achieve a goal.

*Project Based Learning* is a teaching method in which students gain knowledge and skills by working for an extended period of time to investigate and respond to an authentic, engaging and complex question, problem, or challenge.

*Thematic units* are the organization of a curriculum around a central theme. They are a series of lessons that integrate subjects across the curriculum, such as math, reading, social studies, science, language arts, etc. that all tie into the main theme of the unit.
A “Starter” List of Resources – This is NOT an exhaustive list of resources:

Integrated Units: A Planning Guide for Teachers  

How to Develop an Integrated Curriculum Unit  
https://amymezniet.blogspot.com/2017/06/how-to-develop-integrated-curriculum.html

Integrated Instructional Unit Samples  
https://www.cde.state.co.us/standardsandinstruction/instructionalunits-integrated

5 Keys to Rigorous Project-Based Learning  
https://www.edutopia.org/video/5-keys-rigorous-project-based-learning

Project Based Learning (PBL) Approach: A Model for Integrated Curriculum  

Integration Strategies for PBL  
https://www.edutopia.org/blog/integration-strategies-for-PBL-andrew-miller

Awesome Lesson Ideas to Integrate Science Across the Curriculum  
http://www.teachhub.com/integrate-science-across-curriculum

https://educationcloset.com/k-3-arts-integration-lesson-plans/

Positive Interdependence, Individual Accountability, Promotive Interaction: Three Pillars of Cooperative Learning  
https://www.uwstout.edu/soe/profdev/resources/upload/acl_piapi.pdf