



**WACO ISD EDUCATION FOUNDATION
COVER SHEET – PART II
Application for Grant:
2025-2026 Funding Cycle**

Assigned Grant Proposal #: _____

Project Title: _____

Grade Level(s): _____ **# of Students DIRECTLY involved:** _____

Subject Area(s): _____

Amount Requested: \$ _____

Grant Focus Area(s): In order to be considered, Waco Education Foundation Innovation Grant proposals must fall under one or more of the E4 focus areas: early childhood development, enhanced programming for advanced students, extended education for staff, and emphasis on student performance. NOTE: In addition to meeting one of the E4 focus areas above, grant readers are especially interested in creative and innovative grant requests that target fine arts, STEM, literacy, or enrichment.

(check all that apply)

Early Childhood Development

Enhanced Programming for Advanced Students

Fine Arts

Literacy

Extended Education for Staff

Emphasis on Student Performance

STEM

Enrichment

Proposal #13

Words Worth Printing

Project Description:

The "Words Worth Printing" project will facilitate creativity and innovation by allowing speech therapists to design and make tangible communication books, posters, visual supports, and therapy materials of their own design. Speech Language Pathologists will collaborate within their department to share resources, but will also serve to foster collaboration across disciplines and subject areas within their schools. SLPs will work hand in hand with specialized subject teachers (art, music, P.E., dyslexia, etc) to create communication supports and visuals that are specific to the needs of their particular classrooms. They will collaborate with special education teachers to broaden access to core words, academic vocabulary, and functional advocacy for their students.

Rationale:

The "Words Worth Printing" project directly aligns with the Waco Education Foundation's focus on creative classroom projects and district initiatives by equipping Speech Language Pathologists (SLPs) with the resources to create innovative, personalized visual communication supports. These resources foster inclusive learning environments and promote student independence. The WISD District Improvement Plan emphasizes equitable access to education, supporting diverse learners, and enhancing instructional strategies to improve student outcomes. By providing the speech pathology department with color printers, a poster printer, and binding materials, the project empowers SLPs to design customized, durable communication materials that meet students' individual needs. By expanding access to high-quality visual tools, the project supports not only over 1,100 WISD students with communication disabilities like autism or speech impairments, but also English language learners and early childhood students developing foundational language skills. Visual aids such as symbols, pictures, or communication boards help bridge the gap between these students and their peers, enabling them to express needs, understand instructions, and participate fully in school activities. Students who are in the process of developing language, such as second language learners or young students in early childhood programs, benefit greatly from access to visuals to support their acquisition and demonstration of knowledge.

Goals:

The goals of the "Words Worth Printing" project include:

- Enhancing communication and learning opportunities for over 1,100 students with communication disabilities, as well as pupils who are second language learners and early childhood students through personalized visual supports.
- Empowering SLPs to create and share customized communication and speech therapy materials efficiently.

- Fostering cross-disciplinary collaboration between SLPs, specialized subject teachers (art, music, P.E., dyslexia, etc), and special education teachers to create inclusive learning supports tailored to each subject area.
- Supporting the development of organized, durable communication books, speech therapy materials and visual aids that promote student independence and engagement.
- Improving parent access to communication supports and home practice materials, allowing for consistency with communication development across the home and school setting.

Plan of Operation:

- **Activities and Strategies:**
 - Equip key campuses with color printers and ink supplies for use by the SLP team. Campuses with color printers will be determined by factors including location, size of speech therapy classroom, and other resources available on that campus.
 - Place a central, accessible poster printer and binding materials hub for district-wide use.
 - Provide training sessions for SLPs to maximize the effectiveness of their visual supports.
 - Encourage collaboration between SLPs, special education teachers, and specialized subject or elective class teachers to co-create materials tailored to classroom needs.
- **School-Community Partners:**
 - School SLPs will collaborate with special education, art, music, and P.E. departments to ensure visual communication supports in these classrooms meet subject-specific needs.
 - SLPs will meet with parents and families at ARD meetings to provide education about language development, encourage at-home support, and facilitate continuity in visual communication access across settings.
- **Timeline:**
 - In October 2025, the printers, ink, and binding equipment will be purchased, distributed, and installed for use by the SLP team. Before Christmas break 2025, training for SLPs and collaborating teachers on equipment use and effective visual aid design will be provided. By the start of the spring 2026 semester, the speech team will begin producing communication books, visual supports, posters, therapy materials and other resources for use around each campus. This timeline ensures immediate implementation and continuous use for maximal district-wide impact.

Communication and Dissemination:

We look forward to sharing the “Words Worth Printing” project results with the Waco community. Most citizens are not aware of the variety of communication methods that may be used by those with disabilities. The SLP team will invite the Education Foundation to visit our speech therapy classrooms while we use communication books, therapy materials, large game boards, posters, visuals, and the many other resources that are made possible with this project.

Each campus can publish photos highlighting the “Words Worth Printing” project on social media and school websites. This project can be featured in news articles/TV spots with the WISD Communications department and KWTX-Channel 10. The project leader is also willing and able to provide a presentation displaying the variety of ways the speech department has used the new printers and materials at public events such as town halls or board meetings.

Evaluation:

The “Words Worth Printing” project’s success will be evidenced by the use of a variety of therapy materials and communication resources that it provides around each campus and speech therapy classroom. The purchased technology will be shown to be effective at increasing student engagement, joint attention, and communicative intent through their IEPs and progress reports, as well as teacher and therapist report. Parents will be able to provide feedback regarding their child’s communication progress and the adoption of visual supports made with the “Words Worth Printing” project at annual ARD meetings.

Long Term Implications:

The "Words Worth Printing" project is designed to be a long term, sustainable project. After the 2025-2026 school year, equipment and materials will remain district assets, ensuring continued access for SLPs. The centralized poster printer and binding station will be maintained by the district’s technology and special education departments, with funding for future ink and materials coming from the departmental budget. Long-term, the project’s impact will extend beyond the speech department to foster a culture of collaboration and accessibility that benefits those with communication needs as well as the entire student body.

Key Personnel:

- **Project Lead**– Oversees project implementation, coordinates equipment distribution, and facilitates training.
- **Campus SLPs (23)** – Design and produce visual supports, collaborate with specialized subject or elective class teachers and special education teachers, and track student progress.
 - All of our SLPs hold current Certificates of Clinical Competence (CCCs) and are certified by the American Speech and Hearing Association (ASHA), and hold Texas licenses to practice as well. All Speech Assistants are also licensed through Texas’s Department of Licensing and Regulation.
- **Special Education Department Coordinator** – Ensures alignment with district improvement goals and manages budget integration for ongoing supply needs.
- **Technology Support Team** – Maintains equipment functionality and provides technical assistance.

Budget Narrative/Justification:

Below is a breakdown of each item requested, the quantity needed, and the quoted costs along with a rationale for the items. Items are listed in priority order. All items will be purchased

through district approved vendors, including Amazon, CDW-G, and Computer Solutions, incorporated. We hope to receive funding for all items in the “Words Worth Printing” project, but will be thankful for any funding, even if partial.

- **TM-350 Printer Canon Wide Format: \$5,670.08 total cost**
 - This large printer will produce communication boards, visuals, and therapy materials up to 36” in color. The cost of the printer is \$4,110.65. A 2-year service agreement is \$1,098.88. Five ink tank colors are needed for the printer to be fully functional (matte black, original black, magenta, cyan, and yellow), costing \$92.11 each. Three rolls of paper will cost 299.97.
- **Epson Workforce Pro EP-C800 A4 color printers: 3,123.80 total cost**
 - These color printers will allow SLPs to create standard sized therapy materials, print pages to send home for practice or support, and more. The total cost includes 4 color printers for \$990.28 as well as:
 - 4 ink tanks in black for \$851.56
 - 4 ink tanks in magenta for \$427.32
 - 4 ink tanks in yellow for \$427.32
 - 4 ink tanks in cyan for \$427.32
- **TruBind Coil Binding Machine: 235.98 total cost**
 - This electric machine retailing for \$219.99 will allow therapist to make therapy books, resources, and communication supports with a strong and secure coil binding.
 - 100 pack of 8mm Spirals: \$15.99
- **MAKEASY Comb Binding Machine: \$51.99**
 - This manual punching and binding machine will allow therapists to make therapy books, resources, and communication supports with a comb binding, holding up to 60 pages. The machine includes a variety of different comb binder sizes.

The total cost of this project is \$9,381.82 and will impact many students across WISD school campuses for years to come!

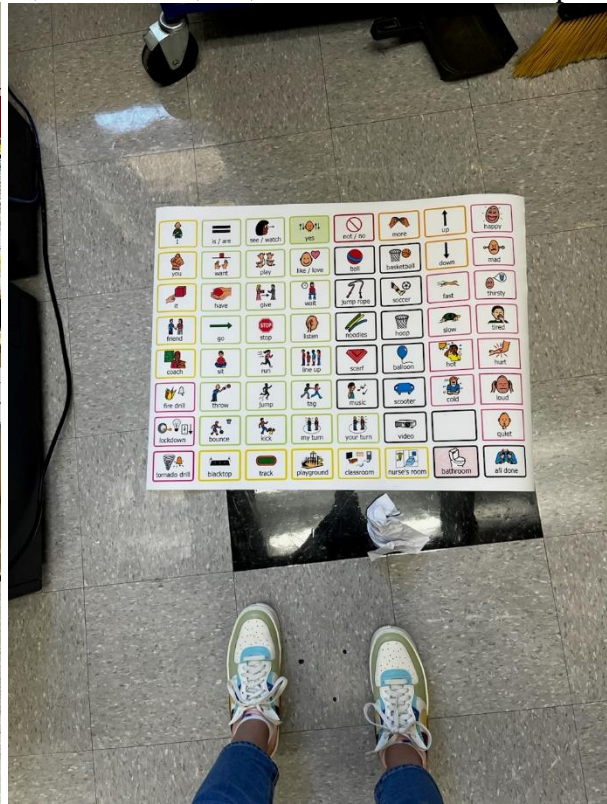
Please see the following pages for photograph examples of just a few of the many therapy materials, resources, and visual supports that could be made with the “Words Worth Printing” project!

Large game boards for group therapy play:



Large visuals for prompting and support:





Core Words		
		
cough	all done	bathroom
		
yes	no	different



Waco Education Foundation
Grant Budget Form

Assigned Proposal #	13
Project Title:	Words Worth Printing
Number of Students Served by Grant:	1127

Qty	Budget Item	Verify Vendor (Y or N)	\$ Requested from the WISD Foundation	Other Secured Source	\$ from Other Source (if applicable)	Total Amount
Consumable Supplies						
1	Matte black ink tank (wide format printer)	Y	\$ 92.11			\$ 92.11
1	original black ink tank (wide format printer)	Y	\$ 92.11			\$ 92.11
1	cyan ink tank (wide format printer)	Y	\$ 92.11			\$ 92.11
1	magenta ink tank (wide format printer)	Y	\$ 92.11			\$ 92.11
1	yellow ink tank (wide format printer)	Y	\$ 92.11			\$ 92.11
3	Wide format printer- paper roll	Y	\$ 299.97			\$ 299.97
4	Epson DURABrite Ultra-black ink	Y	\$ 851.56			\$ 851.56
4	Epson DURABrite Ultra-magenta ink	Y	\$ 427.32			\$ 427.32
4	Epson DURABrite Ultra-cyan ink	Y	\$ 427.32			\$ 427.32
4	Epson DURABrite Ultra-yellow ink	Y	\$ 427.32			\$ 427.32
1	TruBind 8mm Spiral (100 pack)	Y	\$ 15.99			\$ 15.99
total Consumable Supplies			\$ 2,910.03		\$ -	\$ 2,910.03
Technology						
1	TM-350 Printer Canon Wide Format Printer+ 2yr Service	Y	\$ 5,209.53			\$ 5,209.53
4	Epson Workforce Pro EP-C800 A4 color printer	Y	\$ 990.28			\$ 990.28
PRINTER			\$ 6,199.81		\$ -	\$ 6,199.81
Long-Term Supplies / Equipment (items that will last beyond the grant year)						
1	TruBind Coil Binding Machine	Y	\$ 219.99			\$ 219.99
1	MAKEASY Comb Binding Machine	Y	\$ 51.99			\$ 51.99
						\$ -
total Long-Term Supplies			\$ 271.98		\$ -	\$ 271.98
Contracted Services						
						\$ -
						\$ -
total Contracted Services			\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
Personnel						
						\$ -
						\$ -
total Personnel			\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
Travel / Other						
						\$ -
						\$ -
						\$ -
						\$ -
total Other			\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
Totals		Total Requested from the WISD Foundation		Foundation Cost Per Student	Total from Other Sources	Total Cost of Project
		\$ 9,381.82		8.324596273	\$ -	\$ 9,381.82