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   Extended Education for Staff
Enhanced Programming for Advanced Students   Emphasis on Student Performance
Fine Arts   STEM
Literacy   Enrichment

Proposal #66
Envisioning the Future

Project Description

We seek to explore innovative instructional strategies with our students seeking careers in education by improving audio and visual representations through photography and video creation.   Not only will this improve instruction for our students today, but will give them the tools and skills to be better educators in the future.

Section 1: Rationale

The technology and equipment requested will assist us in forming future educators in each of the following Focus Areas:

1. STEM: The video and photography equipment and software will teach our students important technical skills including photography and videography techniques along with editing photographs, audio, and video to make a product that will enhance the delivery of instruction to students of all ages.
2. Fine Arts: Photography and videography are artistic skills that will be taught and honed through this initiative.
3. Enhanced Programming for Advanced Students: All of our students are in advanced academic pathways including Pre-AP and AP. We also emphasize Dual Credit readiness. Many students will graduate with an Associates degree when they complete our program. The creative thinking required for audio and visual representation will push these advanced students into higher-level thinking in order to be more complete educators now and in the future.
4. Emphasis on Student Performance: We will use this technology and equipment to better prepare our students to compete against other aspiring educators at Area, State, and National competitions. Many of these competitions include creating innovative instructional products. The equipment and skills learned through this initiative will place our students in a better position to succeed in these competitions.

Our students are part of a district-wide initiative to try to train and retain better teachers in Waco ISD.   We are attempting to "grow our own" educators who understand the students of Waco and will have the staying power to influence future generations of Waco students.   These young people are especially poised to influence future instruction because of the way they have been formed by Tik Tok and other social media platforms. Their vision, combined with the right skills and equipment, can help transform future instruction to meet the needs of younger and future generations, specifically how they will intake and internalize new information.

Proposal #66
Envisioning the Future

We function as a satellite academy, so do not have access to the technology resources of larger campuses. This grant would allow us to create our own creativity lab to better meet the needs and visions of our students and staff.

Section 2: Goals

As part of our career and technology education, our students will be required to create visual and auditory products to be used inside the classroom to enhance the quality of instruction. Every section will require students to create at least one major audio/visual project during the year. These projects will then be offered to the elementary school teachers that our students partner with to use in their classroom.

A secondary goal is improvement of student success in competition. We had 20 students compete in events that included creating a visual representation. Of those, we had 11 advance to State competition and 2 advance to Nationals. Our goal is to increase our representation both at State and National competitions through the improvement of our Audio/Visual quality.

Section 3: Plan of Operation

Project Description and Activities:

"Empowering Future Educators Through Innovative Audio-Visual Instruction" will transform our student educators' training by integrating advanced audio-visual technology and techniques. The project will unfold through the following activities:

- **Equipment Acquisition and Setup:** Procurement and installation of Canon T7 cameras, DJI Osmo Pocket 3 steadicams, Dell Inspiron laptops, Sennheiser microphones, wireless lapel microphones, and a portable green screen.
- **Student Training Workshops:** Weekly workshops led by Trent Futral, covering photography, videography, audio capture, and Adobe Premier editing.
- **Curriculum Integration:** Kay Murphy and future CTE/English teachers will integrate audio-visual projects into their courses, requiring students to create instructional materials for partner elementary schools.
- **Community Mentorship Program:** Partnering with local professionals (videographers, photographers, digital marketers) and parents with relevant expertise to provide mentorship.
- **Intergenerational Tech Support (Optional):** If there is community interest, students will host workshops to teach basic technology skills to parents, and older community members.

Proposal #66
Envisioning the Future

- **Parent/Guardian Digital Literacy Workshops:** Monthly workshops for parents on digital literacy, online safety, and educational applications of audio-visual tools.
- **Community Showcase and Film Festival:** A public event exhibiting student projects, celebrating their achievements, and fostering school-community connections.
- **TAFE Competition Preparation:** Focused training to enhance student performance in audio-visual categories at Area, State, and National competitions.

Objectives:

- Increase student proficiency in audio-visual production skills.
- Enhance the quality of instructional materials created by student educators.
- Improve student performance in TAFE competitions.
- Strengthen school-community partnerships through mentorship and collaboration.
- Increase parental understanding of digital literacy and educational technology.

Strategies:

- Project-based learning approach.
- Hands-on training and mentorship.
- Integration of technology into existing curriculum.
- Community outreach and engagement.

School-Community Partners:

- Local videographers, photographers, and digital marketing professionals.
- Parents with expertise in audio-visual fields.
- Partner elementary schools in Waco ISD.
- Waco ISD Technology Department (for technical support).
- Potential partnerships with local media outlets.

Parental and Community Involvement:

- **Community Mentorship Program:** Provides students with real-world guidance.
- **Intergenerational Tech Support (Optional):** Provides students with a way to give back to the community, and provides the community with needed skills.
- **Parent/Guardian Digital Literacy Workshops:** Equips parents with essential digital skills.
- **Community Showcase and Film Festival:** Celebrates student work and connects the school with the community.
- **Advisory Board:** Parents and community members will have input into the program.

Detailed Timeline/Calendar:

Proposal #66
Envisioning the Future

- Phase 1: Planning and Setup (Months 1-2)
    - Month 1: Grant approval, equipment procurement, community advisory board formation, initial staff training.
    - Month 2: Student recruitment, introductory workshops, mentorship partnerships, first parent/guardian workshop planning.
- Phase 2: Implementation and Training (Months 3-8)
    - Months 3-6: Weekly student workshops, monthly parent workshops, mentorship sessions, student creation of instructional materials.
    - Months 7-8: Student project refinement, TAFE competition preparation, elementary school integration of student-created materials.
- Phase 3: Showcase and Evaluation (Months 9-10)
    - Month 9: Community Showcase and Film Festival, student presentations, media outreach.
    - Month 10: Post-project evaluations, feedback sessions, program planning for the following year.

Section 4: Communication & Dissemination

- **Foundation Engagement:**
    - We will extend an invitation to the Foundation to observe student workshops and mentorship sessions.
    - We will provide regular updates and photo opportunities showcasing student progress and project outcomes.
    - We are prepared to present the project's impact and results at a Foundation meeting.
    - We will include the foundation's logo on the program's website, as well as on any printed materials that are distributed.
- **District Dissemination:**
    - Project results will be presented at staff development sessions to share best practices and encourage the use of audio-visual tools in instruction.
    - Student-created instructional materials will be made available to other teachers within the district.
    - We will explore opportunities to showcase student work on WISD-TV or the district website.
    - If this proposal is for "Extended Education for Staff" funding, we will create a comprehensive training module and resource library for other faculty members.

Proposal #66
Envisioning the Future

Section 5: Evaluation

- **Student Skill Assessment:** Pre- and post-project assessments of student proficiency in photography, videography, audio capture, and editing using rubrics and project evaluations.
- **TAFE Competition Results:** Tracking student performance and advancement in audio-visual categories at Area, State, and National competitions.
- **Instructional Material Evaluation:** Gathering feedback from partner elementary school teachers on the quality and effectiveness of student-created instructional materials.
- **Parent/Guardian Workshop Feedback:** Collecting feedback from parents on the usefulness and impact of digital literacy workshops through surveys and evaluations.
- **Community Showcase and Film Festival Attendance and Feedback:** Measuring attendance and gathering feedback from community members through surveys and informal discussions.
- **Mentorship Program Evaluation:** Gathering feedback from students and mentors on the effectiveness of the mentorship program.
- **Advisory Board Feedback:** Regular feedback gathered from the advisory board will be used to improve the program.
- **Quantitative Data:** Tracking the number of students participating, the number of projects created, and the number of community members engaged.
- **Qualitative Data:** Gathering testimonials and case studies to illustrate the project's impact on students and the community.

Section 6: Long Term Implications

Everything requested but the 5-year subscription to Adobe Premier is equipment that will be usable for many years.   The equipment will be locked up and protected so that this long-term use will be possible.   Mr. Futral's instruction on video and photography techniques will include the other staff so that it is not dependent on one staff member to sustain this program.

Using this type of innovation in communication and instruction will train our future educators to make a lasting impact for generations to come.   Not only will we graduate students with technical skills to be able to improve their own instruction, but they will also be able to pass those skills down to future students.

Section 7: Key Personnel

- Trent Futral, Math Teacher/Technology Coordinator: Willoversee the use of the equipment, teach students how to properly use it, and teach the basics of video and photo editing.   Though he is a math teacher in this program, he also oversees much of the use of technology.   He will teach these skills during his Problem Based Research class.

Proposal #66
Envisioning the Future

- Kay Murphy, Lead CTE Teacher: Will implement Audio/Visual based instruction in her Senior Year Practicum and Freshman Year Instructional Practices classes. Though all staff assist in coaching, Mrs. Murphy will also be the primary coach for our students for their competitions.

- We will hire two teachers for the coming school year that will teach one CTE class each in addition to their English classes. They will be implementing Audio/Visual based instruction and projects in these CTE classes.

Section 8: Budget and Budget Narrative/Justification

As directed by the Waco ISD Technology department, all purchases will be from B&H Photo, and approved WISD vendor.

- Canon EOS 90D DSLR Camera with 18-135mm Lens: Mid-Level professional SLR camera that allows for all settings necessary for stunning photos.
- The DJI Osmo Pocket 3 is a compact, high-quality steadicam video camera. Though the SLR camera mentioned above can also record video, this camera includes automatic gimbals and stabilization to provide high-quality video even when moving.
- Dell 14.5" XPS 14 9440 Laptop: This computer has all the processing, RAM, and storage necessities of a good multimedia computer.
- Sennheiser MKE 400 Camera-Mount Shotgun Microphone (2nd Generation): a unidirectional shotgun microphone that allows for high quality, isolated audio to be taken even in noisy environments.
- Saramonic Blink 500 T4 4-Person Wireless Microphone System (2.4 GHz): these allow up to four people to have individual microphones attached to their clothing for flexibility in presentation-style videos.
- K&F Concept D225C2 Carbon Fiber Tripod: Will allow our students to film videos that they can place custom, dynamic backgrounds behind people.
- Canon EF 50mm f/1.8 STM Lens: A standard lens used for close-up portraits
- Naztech USB Type-C to 3.5mm Audio Adapter (5"): Necessary to connect the Sennheiser MKE 400 to the DJI Osmo Pocket 3.
- Adobe Photoshop and Premier are the top photo and video editing software out there. Adobe is the industry standard, so not only will our students be using a top-tier program, they will also be trained on the software that is commonly used throughout the video industry.

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Waco Education Foundation
Grant Budget Form

Assigned Proposal #	66
Project Title:	
	Envisioning the Future
Number of Students Served by Grant:	125

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						
						$ -
						$ -
						$ -
						$ -
						$ -
						$ -
	total Consumable Supplies		$ -		$ -	$ -
Technology						
1	Canon EOS 90D DSLR Camera with 18-135mm Lens	Y	$ 1,399.00			$ 1,399.00
1	DJI Osmo Pocket 3 Creator Combo	Y	$ 669.00			$ 669.00
1	Dell 14.5" XPS 14 9440 Laptop		$ 2,022.99			$ 2,022.99
	total Technology		$ 4,090.99		$ -	$ 4,090.99
Long-Term Supplies / Equipment (items that will last beyond the grant year)						
1	Sennheiser MKE 400 Camera-Mount Shotgun Microphone (2nd Generation)	Y	$ 177.00			$ 177.00

1	Saramonic Blink 500 T4 4-Person Wireless Microphone System (2.4 GHz)	Y	$ 249.00				$ 249.00
1	Impact Collapsible Background Kit (5 x 7', Chroma Blue/Chroma Green)	Y	$ 120.86				$ 120.86
1	K&F Concept D225C2 Carbon Fiber Tripod	Y	$ 99.99				$ 99.99
1	Canon EF 50mm f/1.8 STM Lens	Y	$ 125.00				$ 125.00
1	Naztech USB Type-C to 3.5 mm Audio Adapter (5")	Y	$ 9.99				$ 9.99
	total Long-Term Supplies		$ 781.84		$ -		$ 781.84
Contracted Services							
							$ -
							$ -
	total Contracted Services		$ -		$ -		$ -
Personnel							
							$ -
							$ -
	total Personnel		$ -		$ -		$ -
Travel / Other							
1	Adobe Photoshop & Premiere Elements 2025 (3-Year License, Student & Teacher Edition, Download)		$ 79.99				$ 79.99
							$ -
							$ -

| | | | | $ | - |
| total Other | | $ | 79.99 | | $ | - | $ | 79.99 |

Totals	Total Requested from the WISD Foundation	Foundation Cost Per Student	Total from Other Sources	Total Cost of Project
	$ 4,952.82	39.62256	$ -	$ 4,952.82