Mini-Grant Application 2025-26

Deadline: October 27, 2025

The Williamsville Education Foundation, Inc., believes that investing directly in the creativity and commitment of teachers is one of the best ways to improve student learning and achievement. The Foundation's Mini-Grant Program was introduced in 2001 to help foster and support innovative approaches by teachers that enrich learning opportunities for children.

Since the Mini-Grant Program began, the Foundation has provided more than $100,000 to help support a diverse spectrum of educational enrichment activities for Williamsville students. The awards, up to $500 each, fund worthwhile classroom projects, programs or activities that might otherwise not be possible because of limited school budgets (please see reverse side for a partial list of past awards).

All grant applications are reviewed and considered by a selection committee of the Williamsville Education Foundation Board, which then presents its recommendations to the full board for deliberation and approval. Grants are announced and awarded in January.

We are now accepting proposals from faculty members for the 2025-26 school year. The deadline for submission is OCTOBER 27, 2025. Applications submitted after the deadline will not be considered.

The mini-grant application should be e-mailed to:
Nick Filipowski - nfilipowski@williamsvillek12.org
Andrea Hammonds - ahammonds@williamsvillek12.org
Please include "Mini-Grant Application" in the subject line.

Please note: *Applications for funding must be submitted individually. Combined applications will be sent back to applicants. Furniture including chairs, tables, etc. will not be considered.*

- Requests for mini-grant funds must include:
  - Cost quote of **no more than $500**
    - Check if vendor is approved prior to submitting application
      - Amazon and Etsy requests/purchases will not be accepted
      - Gift cards requests/purchases will not be accepted
  - Provide itemized cost breakdown
  - Provide number of students involved
  - Do Not:
    - Use personal funds to purchase items and seek reimbursement
    - Seek reimbursement for funds if the event is scheduled prior to approval and donation by the WEF in January
- **A copy of this cover sheet** with your building principal's signature and Assistant Superintendent's signature
- A letter describing the project including:
- Program and initiative explanation
  - Item explanation
  - Timeline for implementation
    - Please note that the distribution of funds usually takes place in January
  - Expected outcome and how it relates to curriculum and student learning

Successful applicants will be asked to provide feedback to the WEF Board about how the mini-grant funds affected learning outcomes for students.

APPLICANT'S NAME: DATE:

SCHOOL/DEPARTMENT:

GRADE (If applicable):

APPLICANT SIGNATURE:

PRINCIPAL SIGNATURE:

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT SIGNATURE:

Williamsville Education Foundation, Inc.

Our Mission

The mission of the Williamsville Education Foundation, Inc. is to gather and administer private resources to enhance the educational activities of the Williamsville Central School District and help ensure that its students receive the highest quality education. Through the use of community resources, we seek to ensure that ALL children attain academic success.

The Williamsville Education Foundation is an independent, volunteer led, 501(c)3 non-profit organization that serves the students of the Williamsville Central School District.

Williamsville CSD employees have the opportunity to support the Foundation's efforts through a convenient payroll deduction program introduced in 2011. All contributions to the Foundation are tax deductible and directly support learning opportunities for students attending our schools. If you are interested in supporting the Foundation's efforts through the payroll deduction program, please call the Human Resources Department at 626-8055.

For more than two decades, the Foundation Mini-Grant Program has supported a diverse scope of projects and activities across the District, impacting every school and grade level. A sample list of funding includes:

- Hand-held microscopes for middle school science
- Portable telescopes for high school astronomy
- Listening station equipment for elementary schools
- World Languages materials and language magazines
- Go Pro camera for FACS program
- Art and Technology education supplies
- Partial funding for guest writers, musicians, and speakers
- Lego educational materials
- Special programs (e.g. Poetry, Music, Art & Dance Celebration; District Visual Arts Exhibit)

http://www.williamsvilleeducationfoundation.org

Williamsville Education Foundation, Inc.
105 Casey Road P.O. Box 5000,
East Amherst, NY 14051

Stapler
Inspired at a workshop at the Burchfield Penney Art Center, North Art Teach Kim Kirisits used a mini-grant to purchase plier staples for students to use to create elaborate cardboard sculptures from recycled materials.

Green Screen
At Maple West Elementary, students were able to utilize a green screen and integrate it with technology to create dynamic and engaging videos for morning announcements that are shown to students and staff at the school!

Sketchnoting
North Social Studies Teacher Noelle Abdallah used a mini-grant to secure sketchnoting materials for students. Sketchnoting allows students to showcase learning and understanding in a variety of ways, helping improve their understanding and retention of material.