



**WACO ISD EDUCATION FOUNDATION
COVER SHEET – PART II
Application for Grant:
2026-2027 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

Wire, Foam, & Paper, OH MY!

Description

The 'Wire, Foam & Paper, OH MY!' project seeks funding to equip our studio with the specialized tools required for modern alternative sculpture and mixed-media fabrication. To move beyond traditional clay, we are requesting precision hardware including hot wire cutters for architectural foam carving, rotary tools for refined detailing, and soldering equipment for metal wire assemblage. This also covers the 'heavy lifting' of the sculptural process: industrial mixing barrels for paper mache production, specialized spatulas and basins for casting, and hand-held electric cardboard scissors. This toolkit will provide essential support needed to transform raw, industrial materials into sophisticated works of art.

Rationale

Creative problem solving, spatial reasoning & fine motor skill grows when students can experiment with materials and ideas.

The visual arts program at our school encourages students to explore creativity through drawing, painting, sculpture, and mixed media. However, sculptural exploration often requires specialized materials that allow students to safely build, test, and refine three-dimensional forms.

The **“Wire, Foam, & Paper, OH MY!”** project will provide essential sculpture-building materials that allow students to experiment with structure, balance, and design while developing technical and creative problem-solving skills. Materials such as wire armatures, sculpting foam, and structural paper products will enable students to construct stable forms, test ideas quickly, and revise their work through hands-on experimentation.

By expanding access to versatile sculptural materials, the project will support deeper creative exploration and help students translate imaginative ideas into finished three-dimensional artworks.

Goal

The goal of the “**Wire, Foam, & Paper, OH MY!**” project is to expand opportunities for students in grades 9–12 to explore three-dimensional design and sculpture while strengthening creativity, problem solving, and technical construction skills.

Through access to specialized sculptural materials, students will experiment with form, structure, and composition while creating original three-dimensional artworks.

Goals and Measurable Outcomes

Project success will be demonstrated through the following outcomes:

- **120–550 students** will engage in hands-on sculpture projects using the new materials.
 - Students will create **75–100 original three-dimensional artworks** using wire, foam, paper, and mixed sculptural materials.
 - **Three rotating displays or exhibitions** will showcase student sculpture projects throughout the school year.
 - Students will participate in **critique and collaborative discussions**, strengthening creative thinking and design problem-solving skills.
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Plan of Operation

The project will be implemented during the **2026–2027 school year**.

During the first phase, the art department will purchase sculptural building materials including armature wire, sculpting foam, structural paper products, adhesives, and cutting tools. These materials will be organized for use within sculpture and mixed-media projects.

During the second phase, students will participate in guided sculpture lessons focused on structure, balance, and form. They will begin by constructing armatures using wire and lightweight foam, then develop surface forms using paper-based sculptural techniques.

Throughout the process, students will test ideas, learn not to fear failure and try again, revise structures, and refine their designs through critique and collaborative discussion. Completed works will be prepared for display within the school.

Communication and Dissemination

Student sculptures created through the project will be displayed throughout the school to celebrate student creativity and increase visibility of the visual arts program. We invite the Waco Education Foundation to view our student's work and sculpture pieces in our school and at the District Art Show!

Photographs of student work and exhibitions will be shared through school newsletters, social media, and the campus website. Artwork may also be featured during open houses, community events such as Comic Fest--CenTex Teen Book Fest, our Black History Month Program, Hispanic Heritage Month, Waco Cultural Heritage Month, and school showcases to provide families and visitors with opportunities to experience student work throughout the building in various locations.

These efforts will promote awareness of the visual arts program and highlight student creativity across the school community and encourage future students in their own creative fields.

Evaluation

Project success will be evaluated through participation and creative output.

Teachers will track the number of students using the materials and participating in sculpture projects. The number of completed artworks will serve as a measurable indicator of engagement and learning.

Student reflections and critique sessions will provide insight into how the materials supported creativity, experimentation, and problem solving. Photographic documentation will demonstrate the impact of the project throughout the year.

Long-Term Implications

The materials purchased through the “**Wire, Foam, & Paper, OH MY!**” project will support sculpture instruction for many years beyond the initial grant period.

These versatile materials will allow future students to explore three-dimensional design while strengthening skills in structure, engineering, and creative thinking. Over time, the project will expand opportunities for hands-on learning and experimentation within the visual arts program, leading to further careers such as Social Sciences and Engineering that require independent thought and problem solving abilities.

By encouraging students to transform simple materials into complex forms, the project reinforces the value of creativity, innovation, and persistence in the artistic process.

Key Personnel

The project will be coordinated by the visual arts instructor, who will oversee purchasing, classroom integration, and student instruction.

Students enrolled in grades 9–12 visual arts courses will actively participate in sculpture projects using the materials. School administrators and instructional staff may assist with supporting exhibitions and sharing student work with the community.

Budget Narrative / Justification

The requested **\$8,500** will fund materials and tools that allow students to explore three-dimensional sculpture techniques safely and creatively.

Armature wire and sculpting foam will allow students to build stable internal structures while experimenting with form and balance. Recycled paper and cardboard materials will support surface development and layered sculptural techniques. Adhesives and sculpting tools will ensure students can construct and refine their work effectively.

Storage solutions will help organize materials for long-term classroom use.

Because these materials are durable and reusable, they will continue supporting sculpture instruction and creative experimentation for many years beyond the initial grant period.

Closing Statement

Through the **“Wire, Foam, & Paper, OH MY!”** project, students will transform simple materials into imaginative sculptures, developing creativity, confidence, and problem-solving skills while sharing their work with the entire school community.

**Waco Education Foundation
Grant Budget Form**

Assigned Proposal #	40
Project Title:	"Wire, Foam, & Paper, OH MY!"
Number of Students Served by Grant:	525

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						
9	16 Gauge Armature Wire 1640FT	Y	\$ 270.00			\$ 270.00
9	9 Gauge Armature Wire 1000FT	Y	\$ 900.00			\$ 900.00
15	24 Gauge Craft Wire Set	Y	\$ 225.00			\$ 225.00
6	High Temp Resistance Wire	Y	\$ 60.00			\$ 60.00
12	Hot Glue 10in	Y	\$ 220.00			\$ 220.00
6	6 Rolls Alien Tape	Y	\$ 180.00			\$ 180.00
6	8in Zip Ties	y	\$ 95.00			\$ 95.00
9	Craft Foam Spheres Various Sizes	y	\$ 100.00			\$ 100.00
50	Craft Foam blocks Various Sizes Sets	Y	\$ 600.00			\$ 600.00
10	PVA Liquid Glue	y	\$ 180.00			\$ 180.00
10	Cold Porclaine Kit		\$ 120.00			\$ 120.00
2	Corn Starch		\$ 100.00			\$ 100.00
total Consumable Supplies			\$ 3,050.00		\$ -	\$ 3,050.00
Technology						
						\$ -
						\$ -
total Technology			\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
Long-Term Supplies / Equipment (items that will last beyond the grant year)						
3	Portable Electric Concrete Mixers	Y	\$ 1,100.00			\$ 1,100.00
3	Cardboard Table Saw	Y	\$ 750.00			\$ 750.00
9	Cordless Electric Cardboard Saw	Y	\$ 370.00			\$ 370.00
15	Hot Wire Electric Foam Cutter Kit	Y	\$ 675.00			\$ 675.00
3	Heat Gun Kit	7	\$ 225.00			\$ 225.00
6	Pliers Set	Y	\$ 300.00			\$ 300.00
3	Jewelry kit	Y	\$270			\$ 270.00
6	Ring Sizer W/ Needle Nose Pliers set	Y	\$ 230.00			\$ 230.00
3	Paper Storage Drawers	Y	\$ 130.00			\$ 130.00
6	Craft Rolling Storage	Y	\$ 500.00			\$ 500.00
3	Craft Storage Cabinet	Y	\$ 600.00			\$ 600.00
10	Sets of Clay Tools	y	\$ 100.00			\$ 100.00
2	Airtight Containers Various Sizes	y	\$ 200.00			\$ 200.00
total Long-Term Supplies			\$ 5,450.00		\$ -	\$ 5,450.00
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
			\$ 8,500.00	16.19047619	\$ -	\$ 8,500.00