



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

Proposal #48
Protect the Pan!

Project Description:

The "Protect the Pan!" initiative seeks funding to acquire professional-grade cases for the University High School Trojan Pans ensemble. Currently, our steel drums are vulnerable to denting, detuning, and environmental damage during storage and transport. This project aims to provide the "Trojan Armor" necessary to preserve our musical investment.

The awarded funds will be dedicated to the procurement of brand new cases for each type of steel drum (and estimated cost): Bass Pans (\$4,800), Tenor/Lead/Double Seconds (\$3,300). For the lead pans it will help prevent surface scratches and rim damages, and for the bass pans it will help provide manageable, safe transport for our largest instruments.

Rationale:

Steel drums are an important and valuable part of the University High School Mighty Trojan Band program. They provide a new experience for young student musicians to participate in a musical experience not provided by many schools in our state. However they can be highly sensitive instruments that can be easily dented, scratched, or detuned if not properly protected during storage and transportation. Currently, many of our cases have deteriorated over time, providing less support for these instruments in storage/transport to community gigs. This initiative seeks to address this need by providing quality cases for the ensemble. By investing in proper protective equipment, this project will help preserve the longevity, performance quality, and overall condition of these instruments so that current and future students can continue to learn and perform with well-maintained equipment.

Goals:

The primary goal of the initiative is to preserve and protect the Trojan Pans ensemble's steel drum instruments by providing durable, professional-grade protective cases. The cases will help prevent any kind of damage, from transport or environment. By safeguarding these instruments, the project will extend the instrument's lifespan, maintain good sound quality, and ensure that students can continue performing on these instruments.

Plan of Operation:

Upon receiving the grant funding, the Trojan Pans program will purchase professional-grade cases designed specifically for the ensemble's steel drums. Once delivered, the cases will be assigned to each instrument and immediately integrated into the ensemble's storage and transportation procedures. Students will be instructed on proper handling and storage practices to ensure the instruments are consistently protected during rehearsals, performances, and travel to events.

Communication & Dissemination:

The impact of the Protect the Pan! Project will be shared with the school and border community through the band program's official communication channels. Updates and photos highlighting the new equipment will be shared through the band and school social media platforms.

Performances and events featuring the ensemble will also serve as opportunities to highlight how grant funding directly supports student musicians and protects valuable school instruments.

Evaluation:

The success of the initiative will be evaluated by monitoring the condition and longevity of the steel drums following the implementation of protective cases. The band staff will document improvements in safe storage and transportation practices, as well as the reduction of potential damage. Feed back from students and staff will be considered.

Long Term Implications:

With proper, protective cases for the Trojan Pans ensemble, the instruments will be better safeguarded and its lifespan will extend. This investment will reduce the need for costly repairs or replacements while ensuring that future students have access to well-maintained instruments. By protecting these resources, the project supports sustainability of the Trojan Pans programs. Allowing it continue providing meaningful musical and cultural experiences for the students for many years to come.

Key Personnel:

Oversight of this initiative will be led by the Band Directors of the Mighty Trojan Band program. They will manage the purchasing, organization, and integration of the protective cases into the program's equipment procedures. These individuals will help ensure that the cases are used properly and consistently, promoting responsible instrument care and long-term protection of the ensemble's equipment.

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		#VALUE!		\$ -		\$ 8,100.00	