



**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 |

Grant Proposal: Framework for the Future #8

Total Requested Amount: [\$5,000]

Primary Focus Area: Creative Classroom Project / District Initiative

1. Rationale

Framework for the Future directly addresses the Waco Education Foundation's mission to support Creative Classroom Projects and District Initiatives. Currently, the high cost of pre-made, professional-grade canvases creates a "size ceiling" in our art departments; students are often restricted to small, flimsy boards or paper because a standard \$30–\$50 canvas is cost-prohibitive for a class of 30.

This project shifts the paradigm from *consuming* ready-made products to *constructing* them. By providing the raw materials—timber, hardware, and heavy-duty canvas—we align with the District Improvement Plan to foster career-technical skills and artistic excellence. This project is needed to level the playing field across the district, ensuring that a student's creative vision is limited by their imagination, not their family's or school's budget.

2. Goals

Our objective is to institutionalize the craft of canvas stretching across all district high school and junior high art programs.

- **Skill Acquisition:** 100% of participating students will learn to operate a miter saw (under supervision), join stretcher bars, and utilize a "staple-and-tension" method to stretch canvas.
- **Scale Expansion:** Increase the average size of student paintings by 200%, allowing for more ambitious, portfolio-quality work.
- **Professionalism:** Every student will produce at least one "gallery-ready" piece on a hand-constructed frame, suitable for public exhibition or college applications.

3. Plan of Operation

Project Description: We will source high-quality raw timber (kiln-dried basswood or pine) and heavy-duty cotton duck canvas in bulk. This allows teachers to create custom-sized frames that meet specific project needs.

Community/Parental Involvement: We could partner with local framing shops and carpentry mentors to provide "Pro-Tips" sessions. We could involve parents by inviting them to a "Canvas & Coffee" night where students demonstrate their new carpentry skills, showing that "Art" involves significant structural engineering.

4. Communication & Dissemination

- **Foundation Visibility:** We could invite Foundation board members to a "Stretching Seminar" to see the physical labor involved. Every hand-stretched piece will include a back-stamp: *"Supported by the Waco Education Foundation."*

5. Evaluation

The success of **Framework for the Future** will be measured by:

- **Portfolio Growth:** A comparison of student work dimensions and presentation quality from the previous year.
- **Technical Assessment:** A practical exam where students must demonstrate a "drum-tight" canvas stretch without corner puckering.
- **Sustainability Metric:** Calculating the cost-per-square-inch of the DIY frames vs. retail canvases to prove fiscal efficiency.

6. Long Term Implications

This project establishes a **sustainable infrastructure**. The tools (miter saws, staplers, canvas pliers) are one-time purchases that will last for a decade. Beyond 2026-2027, the district can sustain the program simply by replenishing raw lumber and canvas bolts, which is significantly cheaper than buying individual canvases. Long-term, students will graduate with the "maker" mindset required for professional art careers, understanding that the quality of the "framework" determines the longevity of the art.

7. Key Personnel

Role	Qualifications	Responsibilities
Project Coordinator	Lead Secondary Art Instructor; Carpentry experience.	Sourcing timber, overseeing safety training, and bulk distribution.
Art Educators	District Art Faculty (JH & HS).	Implementing framing modules and supervising student construction.

Waco Education Foundation
Grant Budget Form

Assigned Proposal #	
Project Title:	
Number of Students Served by Grant:	

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						
	2-in x 2-in x 8-ft Premium Furring Strip	y	\$ 1,330.00			\$ 1,330.00
9	SUREBONDER Assorted Leg x 5/16-in 20 -Gauge Heavy-duty staples 5000 - Per Box	y	\$ 250.00			\$ 250.00
9	Creative Mark Unprimed Cotton Duck Deluxe Canvas Roll - 7 Ounce Single Fill Roll - 72" x 30 Yards - Uniform Medium Texture - Economy Cotton Sheeting - Bulk Un-Stretched Duck Canvas Fabric for Artists	y	\$ 2,385.00			\$ 2,385.00
9	Handy Art Little Masters White Gesso, 1 Gallon (128 oz) Bulk, Acrylic Primer for Canvas, Wood & More, Made in USA, AP Non-Toxic, Allergy Friendly, Prepar	y	\$ 300.00			\$ 300.00
						\$ -
						\$ -
total Consumable Supplies			\$ 4,265.00		\$ -	\$ 4,265.00
Technology						
						\$ -
						\$ -
total Technology			\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
Long-Term Supplies / Equipment (items that will last beyond the grant year)						
9	Bostitch Construction, Heavy Duty, Narrow Crown, Manual Staple Gun	y	\$ 150.00			\$ 150.00
9	Arrow T50DCD 3/8-in Cordless Electric Staple Gun	y	\$ 585.00			\$ 585.00
						\$ -
						\$ -
						\$ -
total Long-Term Supplies			\$ 735.00		\$ -	\$ 735.00
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
			\$ 5,000.00	#DIV/0!	\$ -	\$ 5,000.00