



# Innovation Grant

Presented by



## Purpose:

Ridgefield Public Schools Foundation (RPSF) believes that innovation in education is essential in creating 21<sup>st</sup> century learners. The grant will provide opportunities, aligned with Ridgefield School District's "Pursuing Premier Goals and Planning Blueprint," to benefit a large number of students in the Ridgefield School District.

Innovation in education is taking a risk to spark the curiosity of students, solve real problems and create significant, positive change. Educators with innovative ideas can generate enriching experiences that go beyond the classroom curriculum. A dynamic idea, a new method, or an invention can foster creativity, transform thinking and encourage a growth mindset.

Do you have an innovative idea that can inspire new learning opportunities or lead to change? Through the Innovation Grant, RPSF will identify and sponsor innovative practices that support the engagement, achievement, or equity of children at any grade level. Proposed projects that demonstrate promise to have a large impact and are likely to be sustainable are encouraged.

The Innovation Grant removes the financial barrier of innovation for educators that are awarded funding. Grants will be presented to staff members, high school students, or school programs in the Ridgefield School District. The RPSF board members will grant requests on a competitive basis.

## Eligibility:

- Each applicant must be a certificated employee, a classified employee, or a high school student enrolled in Ridgefield School District.
- Staff members may apply individually or collaboratively.
- High school students must be sponsored by a certificated staff member.
- Applicants must have the support of their principal and assistant superintendent for the proposed project.



- Applicants may submit only one proposal for the Innovation Grant during the current school year.
- Applicants must provide an update on overall student progress and use of funding by January 2023.
- Applicants must attend the June 2023 RPSF meeting to share the results of the project.

### **Innovation Grant Process:**

- 1) Grant applications will be accepted and approved on a rolling basis. Please send all applications to: [innovation@ridgefieldpsf.org](mailto:innovation@ridgefieldpsf.org).
- 3) Grant applications will be reviewed by the Grants Committee, scored and put forth for approval at the RPSF Monthly Meetings (second Wednesday of the month)
- 4) Grants will be awarded and recipients as soon as a decision is made.
- 5) The grant will be paid directly to the Ridgefield School District. Distribution of grant proceeds will be on a reimbursement basis only following the District's procurement process.
- 6) Periodic updates as defined in the grant recipient's schedule/timeline.
- 7) Grant recipient's completion of the mid-project report card using a provided template.
- 8) A final report, including results and impact of the innovation project, presented in person to the RPSF and Columbia Credit Union.

### **Procedures:**

- Open and save the grant application template. Typed responses are limited to the set word count.
- To keep the grant application anonymous during scoring, please do not include your name, other applicants' names, or school in the grant proposal responses.
- Proposals for field trips, general supplies or resources/programs already funded by the school district will not be accepted.
- Print completed application in order to obtain necessary signatures for approval from the principal & tech director. RPSF will seek approval from RSD administration.
- Scan and send completed application to [innovation@ridgefieldpsf.org](mailto:innovation@ridgefieldpsf.org).
- Questions regarding the innovation grant application or process should be sent to [info@ridgefieldpsf.org](mailto:info@ridgefieldpsf.org).
- Incomplete or handwritten applications, as well as applications received after the deadline, will not be accepted.