

## Five Star Education Foundation Grants Program

### FAQ

#### *1. What types of grants are offered by the Education Foundation?*

There are three types of grants offered through the Foundation:

- ◆ **Classroom Mini-Grant:** This is a grant awarded up to \$1,000.00. It can be used for materials, equipment, professional development, anything you need in support of the district's 95% goal.
- ◆ **The Lee Carlson Literacy Grant:** This is a grant that will be awarded annually for up to \$5,000.00 with no matching funds required. The focus of the grant must be literacy based. It will be awarded annually with an award presentation at the Community Breakfast in October.
- ◆ **The Summit Grant:** This grant is a matching funds grant for up to \$10,000.00. matching funds can include in-kind or monetary funds.

#### *2. When can grants be submitted?*

Grants are accepted in two cycles; December 15 for a January 15 allocation and August 15 for a September 15 allocation.

#### *3. What can grants be written for?*

The Five Star Education Foundation awards grants that support the superintendent's goal the 95% of students will perform at grade level in reading, writing, and math. This is not so say that we do not fund peripheral program requests, but there must be evidence that your grant request will forward the academic achievement of students.

#### *4. Who reads the grants?*

There is an Allocations Committee comprised of community members who serve as Board of Directors for the Education Foundation. These members have been trained to recognize common district programs and some educational 'lingo,' however; please remember that these are non-educators who are looking for concise requests with clear objectives and outcomes.

#### *5. How are grants scored?*

Committee members who read grants use a rubric format in their scoring. Each question on the grant aligns with a rubric section and score. We are looking for high quality submissions that demonstrate need and accountability for outcomes. Preferences are given to grants that have a lasting impact.

***6. If you receive a grant, can you apply for and receive a grant more than once?***

Yes. We award grants on their merit rather than how many times a person makes a submission. In addition, we have awarded multiple grants to schools who have submitted more than one request.

***7. If I don't receive a grant, how will I know what I need to improve on?***

You will receive feedback from the Foundation as to how you could improve your efforts. Please note that if there are multiple submissions for a similar request, it may come down to submission which higher marks for writing a more complete and comprehensive application.

## **Five Star Education Foundation**

### **Grant Facts**

- The grant process was re-designed and implemented in January 2007. Since that time we have received over 90 grant applications in three grant cycles, and have awarded 40 requests.
- We have awarded grants to all levels, including the adult transition program that supports students ages 18-21. We allocate to multiple program types from Special Education, and to ELL, to IB and district activities i.e. MathCounts.
- Approximately 64% of grants are literacy based, and the rest are a smattering of: math, professional development, special needs, technology and service based requests.
- We use our grants as a primary source of advertising, marketing, and fund development for both the district and the Foundation. We utilize the success of teachers and their students to inform the community about the innovations and efforts around student achievement that are currently happening in our district. We depict these stories newsprint, in video, and in various publications.
- We want to hear about your progress, your successes, and we want pictures! Please send photos and stories that depict the impact of these grants in your classroom or department.
- We currently budget for \$63,500.00 in grant allocations. Our goal is to allocate \$80,000-\$100,000 every year in grants.

## **What is the Foundation and what do we do?**

The Five Star Education Foundation has a 23 year history in the district. We have, in the past, supported the Minority Teacher Scholarship program and a college scholarship program. Our current emphasis is to support the district's 95% student achievement goals in reading, writing, and math.

We are a non-profit 501c3 organization that operates as a separate entity from the school district. Our board is comprised of Adams 12 Employees and local community supporters that oversee the partnership between our organization and Adams 12, and works collaboratively on ensuring that what we do supports the school district.

As Executive Director, my job is to:

- Establish and maintain community/business partnerships.
- Manage the Education Foundation, its board, and board business.
- Maintain an Employee Discount program for all Employees
- Seek funding through various grants, market sponsorship opportunities and raise funds to primarily support and enhance the grants program.
- Serve as an ambassador for school employees and students in support of academic achievement.