

AEFI Grants Program Fall 2011

General Information

I. Grants Policies

1. Grants are awarded *twice a year* in the spring and in the fall.
2. Grants are to encourage and support collaborative efforts among teachers, administrators, parents and community organizations.
3. Grants are to focus on innovation while linking to the district's Strategic Plan.
4. AEFI will support major grants that impact a significant number of students.
5. AEFI will support grants that demonstrate a potential for lasting benefit.
6. AEFI will provide feedback to grant applicants through the grant review process.

II. Definitions

Proposals are encouraged which demonstrate innovation (1), are collaborative (2), have a potentially broad impact (3) upon the school district and support the mission, objectives and strategies of the Amesbury Public Schools' Strategic Plan. Equal consideration is given to proposals that are designed for an individual classroom or program. All proposals must promote rigor, provide challenge for all students and enrich students' educational experiences.

III. Suggested Topics

Proposals are encouraged which address a wide variety of curriculum-based topics. AEFI's goal is to support creative ideas of our teachers. The following suggested topics are not meant to preclude other topics, but are encouraged by the School Department:

- ❖ *Real-life skills and problems solving*: e.g. mathematics initiatives targeting hands-on applications to solving problems;
- ❖ *Total health and wellness*;
- ❖ *Literacy initiatives* for young children through middle school and high school;
- ❖ *Expansion of learning opportunities for students*: e.g. distance learning, expansion of foreign languages, field trips, guest speakers & artist-in-residence; and
- ❖ *Expanding the visual and performing arts* at all levels.

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1. **Innovation**: change, adaptation, enhancement, improvement, challenge, risk, or new techniques, which is supported in the literature.
 2. **Collaboration**: working together in a joint effort. This can be among and/or between schools, departments, classes or disciplines. Any combination of parents, students, faculty, administration and community groups may collaborate. However, a least one representative from the APS faculty must be involved in every collaborative proposal. For example:
 - Classroom teacher(s) and School Council
 - Two or more classroom teachers
 - Classroom teacher(s) and parents
 - Classroom teacher(s) and students
 - Classroom teacher(s) and community organization
 3. **Broad Impact**: proposals that will impact a significant number of students/teachers over an extended period of time. Proposals are encouraged which support collegial, cross school and cross grade projects.

IV. The Fall Grant is one award of \$10,000, and is known as The Jordan M. Shay Memorial Grant. The following Grant Category information is for the Spring 2012 Grants only.

INDIVIDUAL GRANTS

Maximum: \$1,500 to an individual
\$3,000 to a collaborative effort of two or more applicants

MAJOR GRANTS

Must impact a significant number of students
Must be collaborative and replicable (without further funding from AEFI)

Maximum: \$4,000

V. Fall Grant Making Schedule

Tuesday, September 6, 2011

Tuesday, October 6, 2011

Monday, October 24, 2011

Grant Applications Distributed

Application Deadline

(4:00 PM at Horace Mann School)

Grant Awards Announced at Ale House Event

(Spring 2012 Schedule will be announced at the beginning of the New Year)

VI. Proposal Review

After initial screening, the AEFI Grants Committee may contact applicants for further information before making a final decision on the proposal. The AEFI Board of Directors has the final approval on all grants.

VII. Please Note

No funding will be given for projects that require classroom teachers to be away from their classrooms.