



Educare Foundation Ed Waltman Mini Grant Program

The **Educare Foundation** is a non-profit organization, founded in 1995, which provides financial support to the Mankato Area Public Schools which goes beyond the normal operating budget to fund programs and activities that enhance educational opportunities for all students, encourage teachers to explore new ways of learning and provide a vital link between the community and the classroom.

The goal of the **Ed Waltman Mini Grant Program** is to provide enrichment opportunities to students in Mankato Area Public Schools. Enrichment could be defined as new learning opportunities not available to most students in the classroom.

Selection Criteria

Grants will be evaluated on the following:

- Number of students involved.
- Intended activity should be in direct support of school curriculum.
- Requests that support K-12 school day curriculum will be given first priority. Educare does not generally support extra-curricular activities.
- Educational outcome of the experience and follow up in the classroom.
- Please spell out any acronyms and provide background on your department, if necessary.
- Number of students that have never had this experience.
- Note other sources explored, or matching funds, if available.
- Time constraints. What is the date on which the requested funds would be used and the date by which the educator would need a response from Educare without endangering the completion of the activity?
- All requests must be signed off on by the building principal. Requests will not be considered without it! Please also list your name, title and department.
- All recipients will be required in any notes they send home regarding the project, to include "sponsored in part by Educare Foundation..." or "funds provided by Educare Foundation."

Grant requests should be summarized in one page or less, outlining the above criteria. Please also include any pictures, sources, costs, shopping cart printouts, websites, etc. Historically, the Foundation has not funded replacement items, sensory items for the classroom (i.e. wobble chairs), and subscription renewals.

Educare Foundation's intent of the Ed Waltman Mini Grant Program is to impact as wide of an audience as possible within the Mankato Area Public School District. In addition to the stated application criteria, funding decisions may be impacted by the Foundation's availability of funds and/or historical diversity of giving across school district facilities.

Mini Grants will be reviewed four (4) times during the school year. The Foundation distributes up to \$24,000 annually in mini grants, with a maximum of \$1,000 awarded per mini grant. Generally, around \$6,000 will be awarded per quarter depending on requests. Grant requests are accepted and reviewed every quarter by the Educare Grants Committee. The grant submission, review and approval dates can be found online at www.educarefoundation.org/grants

Application can be submitted via:

- Fill out the Mini Grant Application form online at www.educarefoundation.org/grants
- Send request to Carol Wandersee at the Superintendent's office
- Or send email to: cwande1@isd77.k12.mn.us

If you have any questions, contact the Educare Grants Committee at grants@educarefoundation.org or call the District Office at 507-387-1868.