

ISSAQUAH
SCHOOLS
FOUNDATION

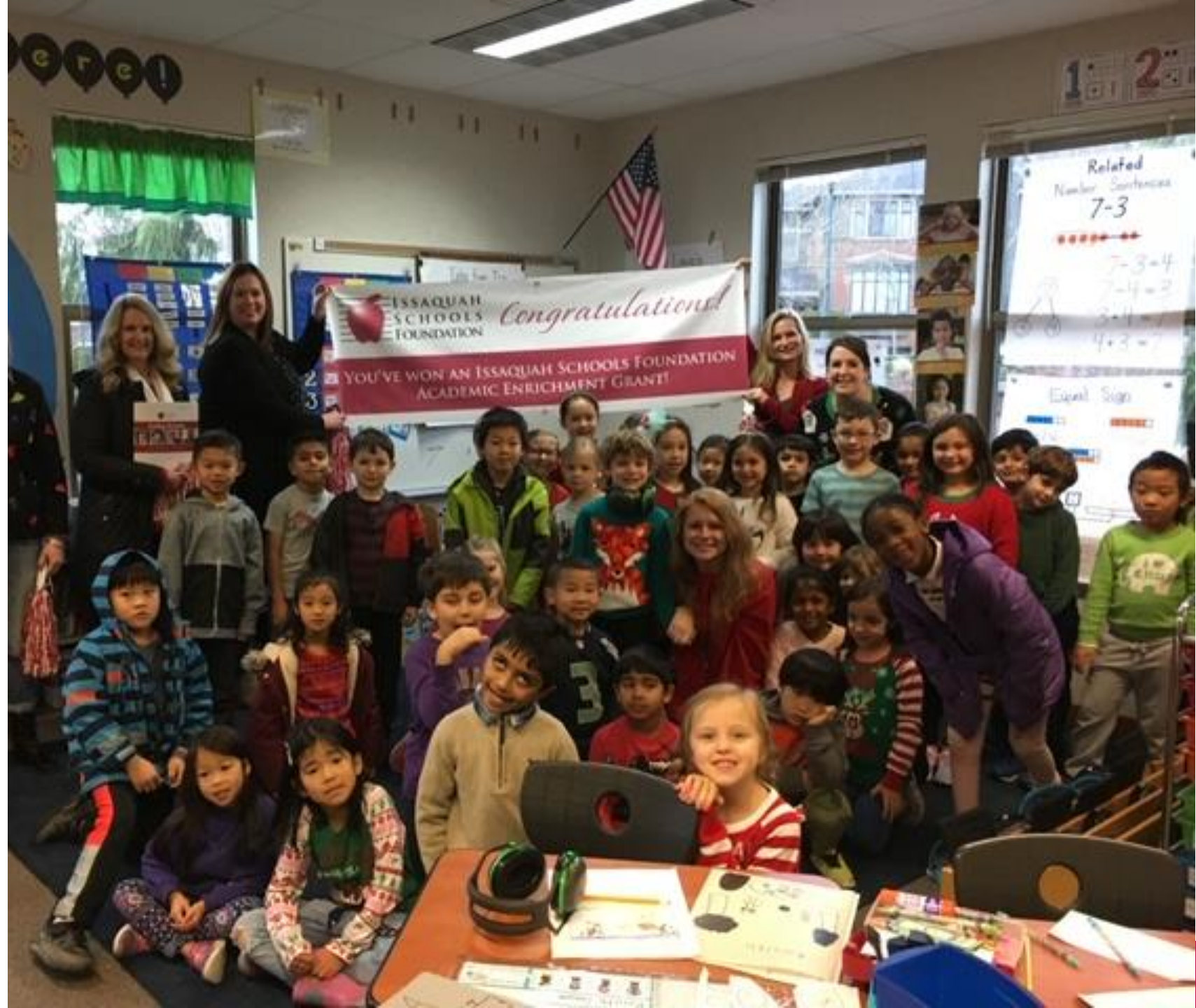
Fueling Success

for every student, every school.



Grants Workshop FY25: Nov 21 & Dec 4

- What we fund & FAQs
- Grant application process & tips
- Recipient Commitments



What We Fund

The Issaquah Schools Foundation raises money to open doors for Issaquah School District students to see beyond their immediate experiences, expanding the boundaries of what they believe is possible.

Priority Areas

- Student-centered grant ideas with the broader impact
- Academic Support & Enrichment – closing learning gaps, igniting curiosity & passion for learning
- Student Well-being – addressing needs of whole student & removing barriers to learning
- Community Outreach – meeting needs of diverse community

Foundation Grants

Align to Priorities

Pilot Innovation

Offer Equity

Demonstrate Impact & Scalability

Open to all teachers, staff, and administration to apply

- Parents/PTAs can also support or apply with principal/teacher approval.

Types of grants available

Classroom Enrichment Grants (up to \$3,000) enhance the learning environment of individual classrooms, libraries, computer labs, resource centers and schools.

Kateri Brow Big Idea Grants (\$3,001-\$10,000) fund programs (often across teaching teams or schools) responding to a compelling need that reflects innovation in education.

New this year: Grant requests can be for the current 2024-25 school and/or next 2025-26 school year

Number of grants funded based on quality & quantity of applications received.

- The Foundation can decide to partially fund a grant.



Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Are there any types of requests the Foundation will not fund?

A: Any that the ISD Cabinet does not deem appropriate and aligned with current district goals and curriculum.

Additionally, there are areas where the Foundation has restrictions.

- **Elementary literacy curriculum supports** – In 2024-25, ISF is investing in take-home books for K/1st aligned with the new elementary literacy curriculum across all elementary schools so will not be making additional elementary literacy grants.
- **Professional Development** – we accept applications for groups to attend professional development opportunities that are approved by the district; we do not accept individual PD requests, nor do we sponsor conferences.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Can I apply for more than one grant at a time?

A: While you may submit as many grant applications as you have ideas, the Foundation will award no more than two grants per applicant.

Q: Can I apply for a grant if I received one previously?

A: Yes!

Q: What if my program extends over multiple years?

A: You may apply for funding for 3 years for the same grant, but then you must take a one-year hiatus. Be advised that multiple year funding is never a guarantee!

Q: Can I ask the Foundation to pay time for program implementation?

A: Yes. However, when preparing your budget for teaching time, the Foundation uses the curriculum rate not the per diem rate. Please include the cost of benefits in the personnel cost on your budget.

Grant Application Process & Tips

Grant Process Outline

1. **Discuss with key parties (teaching team, administration, PTSAs) and seek approval of the concept from your principal or district ED prior to completing full application;** they will also sign off on the final grant application.
 - Talk to Director for any specialty area prior to applying. (i.e. Special Ed etc.)
2. **Submit Your Proposal by January 8, 2025**
 - ONLINE at: <http://isfdn.org/grants>
 - KB Presentation Night: February 11, 2025 for those who are asked to present
3. **Receive Notification of Grant Award/Funding** – early March 2025
4. **Spend the money and implement grant idea** (Spring 2025 or Fall 2025 depending on grant timeline)
5. **Complete a Final Report**

Smarter Select Application

- Access the Smarter Select applications through our Foundation website on the grants page
 - <http://isfdn.org/grants>
 - Also there are a PDF of the full Application and the Judging Rubric
- Choose the Classroom Enrichment or Kateri Brow application **based on your total funding ask** – the applications are otherwise the same
- Once you've started your SmarterSelect application you can go in and out of the system to edit up until you submit or the January 8 deadline

Smarter  Select

Grant Application

Begin with the end in mind – What are you wanting to accomplish and how will you measure success?

Title – Please make descriptive and clear.

Description – Include a clear, concise, compelling description of the project.

Approach – Share the “why”. Highlight what is innovative or better than current practice.

Student Impact & Outcomes – Describe how students will benefit; how it will enhance the education process. Explain what measures you will use to evaluate the impact.

Attachments to Upload – A Detailed Budget & Signature Page (showing approval from principal or director). Both forms available on grants page.

Grant Application – items to note

Review the judging rubric before you begin your application.

Show Support – Have you talked with others? If you are implementing something across a teaching team, is there buy-in?

Reflect Previous Learnings – Have other buildings or schools outside the District had success or learned from a similar program?

Judges look carefully at requests for technology. These requests need to be closely tied to student learning. If hardware/software is involved, do you have confirmation that it is compatible with and supported by district tech personnel?

Don't use acronyms – not everyone will understand what you mean.

Remove any school identifying information – We use a blind judging format to ensure a fair process. Please keep an eye out to remove any accidental mentions of your school, location, student population, etc.

Grant Review Process

1. All grant applications are vetted by ISD.
2. Applications are evaluated by the entire panel of judges in a blind judging process.
 - There may be follow-up questions or requests for additional clarifications.
3. Judges discuss the applications as a panel and then independently score each grant.
 - For **Kateri Brow** grants, judges will identify the top applications to present their proposal to the judges on **February 11, 2025**.
 - Judges meet after the presentation to discuss and then rescore the grants.
4. Top scoring applications receive funding and winning applicants are announced at the beginning of March
 - We also follow-up to share feedback on any grant applications not awarded.

Expectations of Grant Award Recipients

Recipient Commitments: Final Report

Final Reports must be completed by all grantees

Reports are due one year following the grant award

- Can be submitted sooner

Reports include:

- Impact data: Number of students supported, scores, etc.
- Anecdotal quotes and stories from the program
- Pictures of the program 'in action' that can be used in Foundation social media
- Successes, challenges and lessons learned



Recipient Commitments: Thank You Notes

You will need to facilitate thank you notes from your students to our Issaquah Schools Foundation donors.

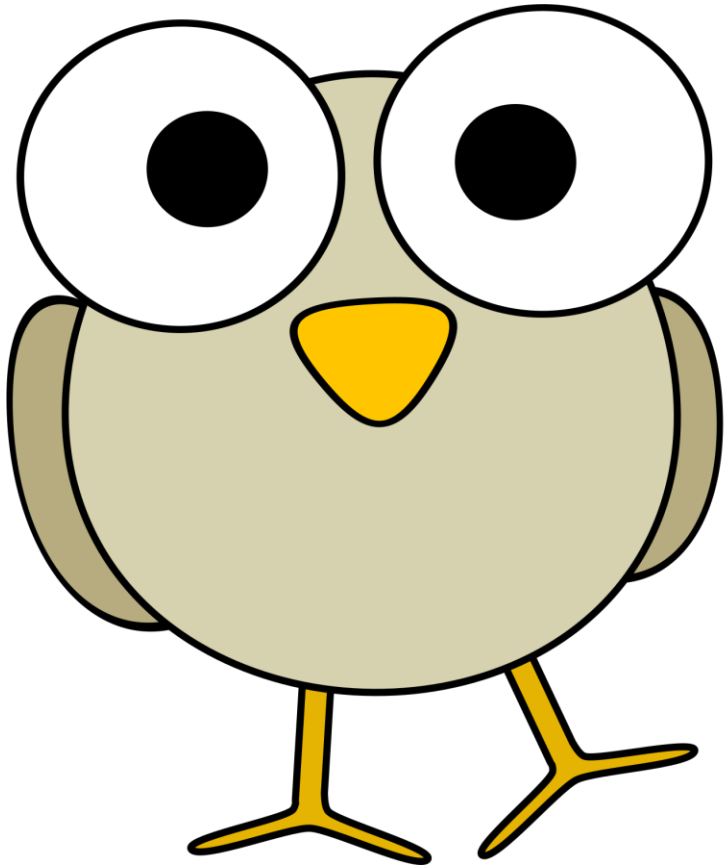
We will provide you with note cards when you receive notification that your grant has been funded.

Community Awareness

Issaquah Schools Foundation donors provide the funds that we pass to you in the form of grants.

The more aware community members are of the way the Foundation impacts schools, the more they are willing to support the Foundation – and grants.

As a grant recipient, please communicate the value of your grant to the larger community, both inside and outside your school. We may reach out on additional promotion opportunities (not required).



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Questions?

Thank you for your time!



FEEL FREE TO CONTACT US IF YOU
THINK OF OTHER QUESTIONS



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