Grant Application Judging Rubric 2026

Please judge the grants based on the following criteria.
Read through each section and score based on the scale below.
A total of **55 points** is possible for each application.

	7-10 Points / Strong	4-6 Points	0-3 Points / Weak
Grant Idea/ Achievement (Q1) *Answers the question: "What is the purpose of this request?"*	Clear, concise description of project and goals. The description is thorough, and it is easy to gain a clear understanding as to what is being requested.	Description is unclear either in project or goals, leaves questions and/or the idea isn't compelling.	The description is vague and/or missing link to goals. The description seems sparse and needs a lot of additional details.
Rationale for Approach/ Innovation (Q2) *Answers the question: "How does this project address a student need in a new or better way?"*	Strong rationale or link to research for the approach used. It conveys a new idea that shows significant promise and/or addresses a specific, compelling need.	Does not clearly articulate the rationale for approach and/or an existing need. The breadth and depth of effectiveness is limited.	Does not demonstrate innovation, or the benefits to students are not understandable.
Impact/ Outcomes/ Scalability (Q3/Q4) *Answers the question: "How will the impact/outcome of this project be assessed?"*	Provides clear and measurable assessment process for student outcome. The benefits reach a broad range of students or deeply enhance the experience of a small number of students. Great potential for ongoing impact and/or implementation in other classes/grades/schools.	Somewhat unclear impact. Results will be hard to articulate, or outcomes will be difficult to measure. There is little evidence that the grant will have an impact that will remain with the students over time. Limited potential for replication in other classrooms/buildings.	Very limited in its impact on students or no documented assessment process. Does not articulate any enduring or measurable outcome. Not scalable.
Foundation Recognition (Q5)	Clear plan to promote ISF awareness. Great potential for a highly visible program of interest to the community. Identifies new or original methods for promoting the program and building awareness of the Foundation.	Limited visibility in greater community. Identifies traditional ways to promote, such as classroom newsletters, building emails, Foundation stickers and discussion at curriculum night.	Does not identify how to promote the program and/or create visibility for the Foundation.

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Note: scale change from page 1 metrics

	10-15 Points / Strong	5-9 Points	0-4 Points / Weak
Overall Impression & Fit with Foundation Priorities	Extremely compelling. This grant would be a wise investment. It is student-centered and strongly aligns with at least one of the Foundation's areas of focus: • Academic Support & Enrichment • Student Well-being • Community outreach	Moderately compelling. The grant should be funded if sufficient funds remain in the budget or if reservations are addressed.	Not compelling. May not be a prudent investment of the Foundations funds at this time.