

# MVLA Foundation Innovative Learning Grants Program Description and Application 2017-18

## Program Description

The MVLA High School Foundation once again, is awarding the district \$100,000 for the 2017-18 school year to inspire creativity and innovation by funding projects that teachers and students design to create unique learning experiences to deepen student knowledge and understanding in a particular subject or across multiple subject areas. Among the desired outcomes, solving real world problems and developing critical thinking skills rank high.

These grants are intended to enhance the educational experiences of our students, taking them above and beyond their usual experience in the classroom. Projects are intended to be seen as pilots with the intention of becoming part of the curriculum sometime in the future. Projects funded previously will be considered.

**Teacher Grants up to \$5000 each.** Limits are applied to each grant, regardless of how many teachers or students are collaborating. Requests for exceptions may be considered when a compelling case exists; there are some limited opportunities for projects to be co-funded with monies from a variety of other sources.

These innovative learning grants for teachers are competitive and require the completion of the attached **Application** form, which must be submitted to Educational Services on or before **April 30, 2017** for projects designed to be implemented in the fall semester. Applications will be reviewed and evaluated by Ed Services and submitted to the Foundation, which will give their final approval by **May 10, 2017**. Selected applicants will be notified via email shortly thereafter. Purchase requests for materials and equipment needed for the opening of school must be received in Ed Services by **June 10, 2017**. The intent is for teachers to receive the necessary materials by end of September to ensure implementation of the project during the fall semester of the 2017-18 school year. Recognizing that not every teacher will be able to submit his or her grant application by this early deadline, we will again have two funding cycles this year. The due date for the second cycle, intended for projects to be implemented during the spring semester, is **September 29, 2017**.

**Criteria for projects to be eligible for funding:** (Please note, requests for Fieldtrips or Outside Speakers, clearly related to, and supporting a desired educational outcome will be considered)

Proposals will be ranked on how well they address the goals/objectives below. (15 points possible)

**1. Impact of the project on student learning: (12 points, 4 pts. each)**

- Evidence that the project will enhance students' depth of knowledge, e.g., 21st Century Skills, career readiness, collaboration, communication in diverse formats, critical thinking, complex reasoning
- Relevance to real-world issues and the solving of these issues and problems, especially through inter-disciplinary approaches
- Evoking interest and passion for learning and making learning relevant to the individual student

**2. Scaling potential of the project: (3 points, 1 pt. each)**

- Relevance to, and place in current or future district curriculum
- Potential incorporation of the project in the curriculum by all members of a course team so as to benefit the largest possible number of students
- Potential for replication across our schools

## **Application Guidelines**

Complete the attached form and return to Educational Services on or before **April 30, 2017**.

**Project Description:** Describe your project in some detail. What will your students be doing? What resources do you need to complete the project? What goals do you want to achieve? How does this project deepen or enhance knowledge and understanding of the subject matter? Does this project address 21st Century Learning? In what way? How will this project take teaching and learning to a higher level? What sets the learning experience apart from what students normally experience in this class?

**Student Information:** How many students would likely be involved (range: minimum to maximum)? What is the typical grade level (9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>)? What class or classes will be involved in this project? What types of students will be involved in the project: AP, Honors, College Prep or traditionally underserved students?

**Budget:** List expenses and material costs (including shipping and tax). Attach a quote or purchase order.

**Evaluation Plan:** How will you determine whether this project was successful in motivating students and enhancing their depth of knowledge or improving their skills? What outcomes are you seeking? How will you measure the results that you have achieved?

**A written narrative evaluation of your project's outcomes must be submitted to Ed Services within two weeks of completion of the project.**

# MVLA Foundation Innovative Learning Grant Application 2017-18

Name of Applicant(s):

Course:

Name of High School:

**Project Description:** (attach additional pages, if necessary) Please address all questions contained in the Application Guidelines.

**Student Information:** (attach additional pages, if necessary)

**Budget:** (attach detail, if necessary)

**Evaluation Plan:** (attach additional pages, if necessary)

**Date Submitted:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Applicant's Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

**Principal's Signature** \_\_\_\_\_  I support this project

I question how this project fits into the curriculum

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**For Ed Services use ONLY:**

**Recommended for approval** \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_ **Conditional approval, contingent on co-funding**

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Foundation approval** \_\_\_\_ YES \_\_\_\_ NO **Date** \_\_\_\_\_ **Initials:** \_\_\_\_\_