

ROGERS-BINFORD PTO EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY GRANT GUIDELINES

MISSION

The Rogers-Binford PTO exists to improve and enrich the education and educational environment for the children attending Rogers Elementary School and Binford Elementary School. Additionally, Rogers-Binford PTO works to improve relations and communications between the schools and the parents and guardians of children attending the schools.

THE GRANT PROGRAM

We believe the most significant means of impacting student learning is to fund grants for the unmet and unfunded needs of students and teachers at Rogers-Binford. Each school year the Rogers-Binford PTO will award grants to worthy projects that significantly impact student learning.

The PTO Grant Committee will award grants in the Fall and Winter. A committee comprised of the executive PTO Board (PTO Presidents and Vice-Presidents, Principals, Vice Principal (if applicable), Secretary and Treasurer), PTO Teacher Representatives from both Rogers and Binford, and volunteer members of the PTO will review grant applications and make recommendations to the general PTO for funding. Based upon funding available, this committee will choose to invest in projects that best serve the students of Rogers-Binford and support the mission of the Rogers-Binford PTO.

GRANT FOCUS AREAS

It is expected that all requests for funding will comply with state standards, support school improvement plans, and fall within at least one of the following focus areas:

MEETING BASIC EDUCATIONAL NEEDS SUPPORTING INNOVATION AND CREATIVITY REWARDING EXCELLENCE

In addition, the Grant Requests must be in alliance with the Rogers-Binford PTO Bylaws that include the following objectives:

- To promote the welfare of all children in home, school & community (i.e. school supplies, clothing, scholarships, etc.).
- To support the maintenance of adequate physical facilities as required to deliver a quality educational experience for our pupils (i.e. playground equipment, landscaping, etc.).

- To provide above and beyond MCCSC financial support, adequate educational materials as required to deliver a quality educational experience for our pupils (i.e. classroom books, maps, calculators, etc.).
- To develop between educators and the general public efforts that will secure advantages in all aspects of physical, academic & social education (i.e. school/business partnerships, police/school safety programs, partnerships with higher education institutions and with health education, economic education programs, etc.).
- To support the principle that parents, staff and community are partners in challenging each student to develop his/her individual abilities (i.e. enrichment or remedial materials, parent seminars, parent volunteer programs, student publishing center, etc.).
- To support teachers' professional development.
- To encourage and enhance parent-teacher communication and cooperation.

POLICIES

1. The goal of the PTO Educational Grants is to fund projects and materials that are directly related to the curriculum, and will have a long-term benefit to the school. *For example, grants that have been approved in the past include: Visiting Authors, Cultural Awareness Programs, Resource Guides, Special area Materials, Pioneer Projects, Wellness Quest, and Special Area Supplies.*
2. Grants requesting funds for professional development will be considered.
3. In order to assess each grant request fairly, the person or persons requesting the grant may, at their discretion, be present at the grant committee meeting (held at 5:30 p.m. before the October and February PTO meetings) at which the grant application is reviewed.
4. Grants are judged on a competitive basis and may be fully or partially funded or not funded at all.
5. Applicants must be employees (certified or non-certified) or students of Rogers-Binford. A Rogers-Binford employee must sponsor a grant submitted by a student(s).
6. Any item purchased, for a teacher's use only, with PTO funds will remain at Rogers-Binford.
7. The Rogers-Binford PTO Educational Grants will not fund transportation costs. This includes all forms of transportation such as bus fees to field trips, bus tokens to local areas, and other means of transportation.
8. Items approved for grants must be purchased with MCCSC funds using the MCCSC vendor requisition/check request system. Completed order forms for grant purchases may be turned into the school secretary who will request a check from MCCSC on or before May 15th of the academic year. Upon receiving the check the secretary will mail the completed order and along with the check to the vendor. If items must be purchased by a teacher, the purchase must be done using vendor requisitions which can be obtained through the school office. MCCSC will then pay the vendor directly.

* Reviewed January 2008