

WAUNAKEE AREA EDUCATION FOUNDATION
POLICY STATEMENT

THE FOUNDATION:

The Waunakee Area Education Foundation is a non-profit corporation whose primary mission is to "...raise funds, make grants and engage in projects and programs for the benefit of the schools and students of the Waunakee Community School District." In simple terms, the Foundation serves as a bridge between our schools and the community.

Incorporated in 1988, the Foundation is supported by generous gifts from individuals, groups, or businesses. Grants from the Foundation are limited primarily to funding the needs of the schools, students and teachers to implement proposals that show promise of enriching the educational opportunities throughout the district. Grant proposals are considered for all levels of study from pre-school to adult "community education".

The Foundation has a special interest in creative pilot projects, model programs and experimental efforts which ultimately can be perpetuated through other funding sources and which actively involve students, teachers, administrators and, as appropriate, parent-teacher organizations. Selective support may be provided to meritorious extra-curricular projects if funding from other sources is unavailable.

MEETING THE CHALLENGE IN EDUCATION:

The Waunakee area has a rich heritage of providing support for quality education. Parent interest in maintaining this tradition is expressed by growing membership in groups such as parent-teacher organizations and school booster clubs for athletics, music and other special-interest areas. The Waunakee Area Education Foundation endorses the presence of such organizations and does not envision duplicating their efforts.

Through funding of enrichment programs, the Foundation seeks to support programs which will take classroom achievement beyond the "minimum daily allowance" level through the availability of otherwise unaffordable resources. These resources enhance the curriculum to advance comprehension and expose students to new perspectives in learning.

Pilot programs and model projects develop and refine educational innovations to provide Waunakee students with added skills and knowledge. Various academic programs which establish strong core skills are considered worthy of supplementary support by the Foundation. Special programs in all areas of educational participation would be eligible for grant consideration.

PROGRAM GRANT CRITERIA:

Key elements to be considered by the Waunakee Area Education Foundation when awarding grants in support of specific educational projects will include the following:

1. The program must relate to education or educational program development.
2. The proposal must address specific community educational opportunities or problems and propose constructive solutions.
3. Programs should be specific in purpose and not directed at generalities.
4. The proposal should attempt to avoid duplication of work by other agencies which are already serving education in the community.
5. The proposed grant recipient must be a demonstrably responsible person or organization.
6. The program should have an evaluation factor, measurable in terms of individual or group advancement.
7. After an initial period of financial support by the Foundation, the program should attempt to be funded from other sources or be self-perpetuating.
8. The written application must clearly state the educational goals, grant requested, proposed budget and a time schedule.

PROGRAMS OUTSIDE THE FOUNDATION'S FIELD OF INTEREST:

To conserve funds for primary areas of support, the Waunakee Area Education Foundation will not contribute to the following:

1. Projects of a specific religious or partisan political nature.
2. Loan or investment purposes.
3. Programs that operate primarily outside the school district area.
4. General operating funds of any agency.
5. Reduction of accumulated deficits.

ADDITIONAL POLICY STATEMENTS:

The Waunakee Area Education Foundation depends on you for its entire income. If you are concerned about and interested in the education of Waunakee area children, as a parent, teacher, alumnus, club, business, or charitable foundation, you should contribute. Your contributions are tax deductible!

The Foundation is fully independent from the Waunakee Community School District and the Board of Education. Obviously, however, the Foundation cooperates with the District to assure that grants are implemented as approved. To facilitate this communication, the President of the School Board and the School District Administrator are ex-officio non-voting participants of the Foundation.

A nine-member board of directors governs the Foundation by reviewing applications, awarding grants, and raising funds. Directors serve three-year terms, with three terms expiring each year. All directors serve without pay.

Except for operational expenses, all funds received are utilized for grants in the Waunakee School District. The size and number of grants given is governed by the funds available. Grants typically range from \$100 to over \$1000.

The Foundation accepts any size and type of gift. Cash, bequests, memorials, property and valuables are greatly appreciated. Please give generously.