

THE GRANT REVIEWER

Volume 2, Issue 1

September 2008

WCSD GRANT OFFICE
MATT JONES, CERTIFIED GRANT WRITER

Target Field Trip Grants Take Education On the Road

It is an unfortunate fact that the rising costs associated with transportation are a potential roadblock for student field trips.

The Target Corporation, however, wants to ensure that students have opportunities to learn outside of the classroom, and has created the Target Field Trip grant program to make these opportunities happen.

The Target Field Trip grants program funds field trips for students nationwide. 5,000 grants of up to \$800 each will be awarded in February 2009.

When applying for funding, remember that requests are best used for visits to art, science and cultural museums, community service or civic projects, career

enrichment opportunities, and other events or activities away from the school.

Funds may be used to cover field trip-related costs such as transportation, ticket fees, resource materials and supplies.

Grants must be used between February 2009 and the end of the current school year.

Follow the link at <https://targetfieldtripgrants.target.com/faq.php> to learn more.



Remember, district field trip regulations still apply, and any teacher applying must notify the WCSD Grant Office prior to submission at Matt.Jones@wcsdpa.org.

Want a SmartBoard? Check your district email...

If we only had a nickel for every time we heard some variation of "Is there a grant available to get a SmartBoard installed in my classroom" from one of our teachers!

Building administrators, Central

Office directors, teachers...we all know that there is excitement in Warren County about SmartBoards, and continued interest in integrating the technology into classrooms and lesson plans.

That level of excitement and in-

terest is hard to ignore, and so the district has developed the SmartBoard Mini-Grant Program. By the time this newsletter is published, all district professional staff will have received the application via district email.

Inside this issue:

Grant Opportunities for Teachers	2
More Teacher Grants!	3
What is Thinkfinity ?	4

Special points of interest:

Browse grant opportunities for teachers!

SmartBoard Mini-Grant applications now available.

Grant Opportunities for Teachers, Sept. '08



New grant opportunities come across my desk daily, so don't hesitate to call or email me with questions on funding for a project or idea that you have!

The following is a listing of some grant opportunities available to teachers and school districts.

If you see anything that you like, talk to your building administrator and Matt Jones at Central Office to see what the next steps might be.

Melinda Gray Ardia Foundation Environmental Curriculum Grant

Due: 9/27/08

Amt: Up to \$1,500

Funding supports educators in developing environmental curricula that integrates field activities and classroom teacher, and incorporates basic ecological principles and problem solving.

[LINK](#)

Kids In Need Teacher Grant

Due: 9/30/08.

Amt: Up to \$500

The grant provides funds for classroom teachers with innovative ideas. Funded projects make creative use of teaching aids, approaches curriculum in imaginative ways, or uses nontraditional approaches to illustrate commonalities.

[LINK](#)

Toshiba America Math/Science Grant, K-6

Due: 10/1/08

Amt: up to \$1,000

The grant supports innovative projects for K-6 math and/or science classrooms.

[LINK](#)

NEA Student Achievement Grant

Due: 10/15/08

Amt: up to \$5,000

Funding for projects that improve the academic achievement of students in any subject area. Proposals should engage students in critical thinking and problem-solving to promote understanding of standards-based subject matter.

[LINK](#)

Lowes Toolbox Grant

Due: 10/17/08

Amt: Up to \$5,000.

Grants support schools and their parent groups. Priority given to projects encouraging parental involvement. Requests should have a permanent impact, such as facility enhancement (both indoor and outdoor) and landscaping/clean-up projects.

[LINK](#)

Adobe Portraits of Learning Contest

Due: 10/17/08

Amt: n/a

Digital photography contest open to all K-12 stu-

dents. 12 winners; prizes include Adobe software, digital cameras, and/or Adobe Digital Kids Club Digital Photo Lab Kit.

[LINK](#)

Warren/Forest Higher Education Council, School To Work Career Education Grants

Due: 2 wks prior to any STW Steering Committee (held on 1st Thursday of sept/Nov/Feb/Apr/June)

Amt: Up to \$1,500

The mission of the Warren County School to Work Partnership is to enable all students to make informed career choices, by providing them with opportunities to explore interests and careers.

Career Education Grants are given to educators/administrators from any K-12 educational facility of the Warren County School District. Projects must demonstrate a definite career education benefit to WCSD students and have a clearly defined relationship to PA Dept. of Education Career Education and Work Standards. Activities normally funded at the school level will NOT be considered.

Contact Kris Whitaker a kwhitaker@hi-ed.org for an application.

(continued on next page)



Grant Opportunities for Teachers (continued from Page 2)

NEA Picturing America

Due: 10/31/08

Amt: n/a

Picturing America is a free educational resource that helps teach American history and culture by bringing some of America's greatest works of art directly to classrooms and libraries.

[LINK](#)

NCTM Equity in Mathematics Grant, Gr. 6-8

Due: 11/01/08

Amt: Up to \$8,000

Grant to provide support to teachers incorporating middle school classroom materials or lessons that will improve the achievement of student groups that have records of underachievement.

[LINK](#)

AILF Immigration-themed Classroom Project Grant

Due: 11/28/08

Amt: Up to \$500

The American Immigration Law Foundation seeks to support innovative and creative classroom projects that promote the benefits of immigration to our nation.

[LINK](#)

AIAA Classroom Grant Program

Due: 11/30/08

Amt: Up to \$200

The American institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics is providing classroom grants for demonstration kits, science supplies, math and science software, graphing calculators, supplies for creating flying objects, supplies for robotics programs, and other materials dedicated to making science, math, and technology come alive in the classroom.

[LINK](#)

NEA "We the People" Bookshelf

Due: 01/30/09

Amt: n/a

Successful applicants will receive a set of classic hardcover books for young readers, all related to the "Picturing America" theme. The set includes 17 books. These books are appropriate for reading levels from Kindergarten to twelfth grade. Two additional selections will appeal to audiences of all ages: *1776: The Illustrated Edition* by David McCullough and *Our White House: Looking In, Looking Out*. Libraries will also receive supplementary materials for programming, including bookplates, bookmarks, and posters.

[LINK](#)

Lowe's Charitable and Education Foundation Trade Skills Scholarships/Parks Grants

Due: ongoing

Amt: \$5,000-\$25,000

Lowe's Charitable and Education Foundation supports public education projects of the following nature: construction and trades-related education initiatives; cleanup, landscaping and painting projects; playground enhancements, and minor repair/renovation of public school buildings.

The Lowe's Foundation prefers projects that are in communities with a Lowe's store, and that will use Lowe's volunteers.

WCSD teachers/administrators that are interested in a Lowe's grant should contact Dr. Norbert Kennerknecht to determine if the project is feasible.

[LINK](#)

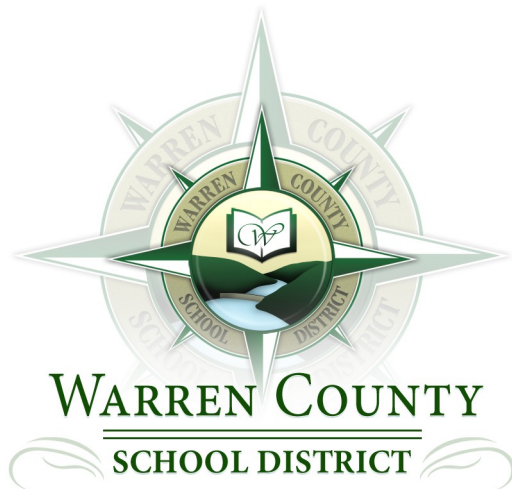


It is important to include your building administrator in any grant that you would like to pursue. Drop them an e-mail, or schedule some time to discuss an idea with them!



Matthew Jones, CGW
Warren County School District
185 Hospital Drive, Curwen Bldg.
North Warren, PA 16365

Phone: 814-723-6903 x2193
Fax: 814-723-5359
Email: matt.jones@wcsdpa.org



What is Thinkfinity?

The Verizon Foundation has created the website Thinkfinity.org to offer a wide variety of educational resources supporting 21st century skills. Thinkfinity has content for educators, students, parents and volunteers. For example:

- Standards based lesson on many topics.
- Teaching strategies for inside/outside the class.
- Facts on topics from art to zoology.
- Interactive games and tools.
- Resources to strengthen problem-solving, creativity, and critical thinking skills.
- Homework help.
- Interactive games.
- Free resources for all types of learners.
- Program strategies and assessment tools.
- Professional development opportunities.

Check it out - maybe there is something for you on <http://www.thinkfinity.org>!

SmartBoard Grant (continued from Page 1)



SmartBoards have been used in the district for several years, purchased mostly through grant dollars and a smattering of budget monies. They have been used successfully in efforts to integrate the use of technology in the classroom by both students and teachers.

The units have also been used by district teachers as they strive to incorporate differentiated instruction strategies in their classrooms.

While some teachers have been using SmartBoards, others have been watching, participating in various professional developments, and otherwise seeing these devices in use. As a result, both new and veteran teachers want to give the technology a try.

For 2008-09, the district has purchased a number of SmartBoards, which will be distributed via a mini-grant process. Interested teachers must fill out a 1-page application that discusses how they will use the technology

to create a technology rich environment, using differentiating instruction, in their classrooms. In addition, they must also complete a 1-page unit grid that discusses strategies, standards, etc.

Both pages of the application must be emailed to Matt.Jones@wcsdpa.org by 4:00 P.M., September 29, 2008.

The goal is to review applications as soon as possible to ensure that grant recipients can have their equipment as soon as possible.

If you have any questions regarding the application, equipment, etc., please contact either Amy Stewart or Matt Jones.