

Innovation Funds for Directors – CODE Final Report

Upper Grand District School Board

March 2016

Funds allocated: \$10 000

Funds spent: \$10 000

Contact: Brent McDonald

Carlo Zen

Superintendent of Education

Superintendent of Education

Goals:

To investigate, analyze and implement an out-of-province innovation.

“The innovation is to be associated with administration, leadership and the improvement of operations for learning. Ideally it will be focus on an improved application of technology”. (CODE)

Actions:

Two senior administrators attended the BETT International conference on Educational Leadership and Technology. Registering for the School Leaders Summit permitted access to school leaders from around the globe in a forum dedicated to discussing key issues facing educational technology today. Examples of discussion topics include: *Measuring the Impact of Technology on Results and Ensuring Effective Assessment Practices When Implementing New Technology*.

The conference allowed first hand discussions with school districts, leaders and vendors on educational technology trends and effective pedagogical practices.

Building on models and examples that were observed and discussed at the conference the following action item was presented to Senior Administration for consideration in the 2016 2017 budget year.

Funding Proposal for Innovation, Teaching and Learning

Educators across the system will be given the opportunity to access funding for school-based proposals for Innovation, Teaching and Learning. The funding is available to schools from Grade 7 – 12 for the 2016 – 2017 school year.

Successful projects will be funded up to a maximum of \$5000. Principal approval of the proposal is required.

Projects are required to have a component that provides evidence on the impact of technology on student success. Projects are required to incorporate one or several of the following components:

- Use of Technology
- Change in Pedagogical Practice
- Alignment with SIPSA and BIPSA
- Direct link to the curriculum
- Assessment component to determine the impact on student learning.

A copy of the system memo is attached for additional information.

The overall intent of the innovation projects is to explore and share meaningful strategies that have a direct impact on student achievement. These projects will undoubtedly empower staff to explore how digital technologies can solve teaching and learning challenges. The Upper Grand DSB is grateful for the opportunities the CODE Innovation Funds have provided and excited about the potential implementation next year.

MEMO

To: Principals And Vice Principals
Elementary and Secondary Curriculum Leaders
Special Education Consultants

From: Brent McDonald, Superintendent of Education
Carlo Zen, Student Success Lead

Subject: **Funding Proposal for Innovation, Teaching and Learning**

Date: _____, 2016

Cc: Martha Rogers, Director of Education
Superintendents of Education and Finance

The Upper Grand District School Board is pleased to announce the opportunity to fund school-based proposals for Innovation, Teaching and Learning. The funding is available to schools from Grade 7 to 12 and will be available to schools in the 2016-2017 school year. Projects will be funded up to a maximum of \$5,000. Principal approval of the proposal is required and fit within the budget parameters.

Each project must incorporate one or several of the following components:

- Use of Technology (existing technologies such as Google, Compass for Success will be given priority over new initiatives)
- Change in Pedagogical Practice
- Alignment with SIPSA and BIPSA
- Direct Link to Curriculum
- Contain Assessment Components to determine impact on student learning

Proposals must include a component that explains how the project will be measured (based on evidence) for impact on student learning.

Funds can be used for the following:

- OTD
- Technology Resources (software/hardware)
- Transportation
- Print or other Resources
- Guest Speakers
- Venue Rental

If your project includes **technology**, consider the following key questions:

Which teaching and learning challenges can digital technologies help **you** solve?

What will it **replace**?

- What will you stop doing?
- Has anyone succeeded or failed with a similar older technology?

How will you **know** it is better?

- Will the teacher be more effective/efficient?
- Will the students learn quicker, for longer, more deeply, think harder?
- Will you see more feedback, more self-regulation, more meta-cognition?

Proposals can be submitted online by completing the Funding Proposal for Innovation, Teaching and Learning form. Proposals are due no later than _____. If you have questions, please contact either Brent McDonald or Carlo Zen.

Please note that only a limited number of proposals will be accepted. All schools will be contacted once final decisions are made.