

The Friends of the Hanover/Norwich Schools: Funding Priorities

Apply now: <http://www.fhns1961.org/teacher--staff-applicants.html>



The Friends of the Hanover / Norwich Schools, Inc. is a private non-profit organization that supports the “enrichment of the educational programs” of the public elementary and secondary schools in the Dresden School District. Founded in 1961 by a group of citizens, including former Dartmouth President John Kemeny, The Friends have made around \$500,000 available to the schools for diverse programs and projects. Contributions to The Friends are received in response to an annual appeal mailed to the Hanover/Norwich community each November. The Board currently consists of eight members with representation from both communities, and there are two meetings each school year (October & March) to review proposals and award grants.

The current funding priority is for new and innovative projects that require “seed money” to get started. Teachers are encouraged to think of creative ways to enrich their curriculum and bring those requests to The Friends for funding consideration. The Friends will fund a hardware or software request if it is an unusual circumstance or is an integral part of a new project. Individual enrichment grants will not be funded. Grants typically range from several hundred dollars to several thousand. Requests for proposals are sent to each school in fall and winter; proposals are typically due one week in advance of the October/March board meetings. Teachers receiving support for a proposal are required to submit an evaluation report to The Friends upon completion of the project. New proposals from a past grant recipient will not be entertained until a report on the prior grant has been received.

The application process is simple, short, and all online. Aside from your contact information, the specific questions on the application form include:

1. The project name
2. The subject area
3. The number of students potentially served
4. A description of the project (typically, a couple of paragraphs)
5. An itemized budget
6. An opportunity to upload supporting documents (price quotes, sales brochures, additional project description information, pictures, links to other districts where this was successful, etc.)
7. Your metric for success and how you might track it. (typically, a paragraph)
8. A certification that your principal is aware of the project and willing to be contacted by the Friends for a couple of sentences of support.

Our guidelines when evaluating your proposals

- How many students are involved? (the more the better)
- Long-term benefits to the classroom and/or school
- Creative/innovative
- Demonstrate need for this project
- Support from Principal - Does principal indicate need and/or enthusiasm for this project?

(updated 2/2023)