

The Vicksburg Community Schools Foundation

Bardeen Teacher Incentive Grant Program

2022 Application Form

Name	School & Assignment	
Address	E-mail	
Phone	Principal Signature	

Application Deadline: March 1, 2022

Please respond to each question in short, concise statements. Limit of application is 2 pages, including budget. Read carefully, the categories have been reworded from previous years.

- I. What do you want to learn / implement at VCS that is new, different? 25%
- II. What do you want students or teachers to learn / do that is new and different? 25%
- III. Briefly describe your project and how it applies to your current teaching assignment or leadership role, and to the district vision for school improvement. Please include specifics on the following: 25%
 - goals
 - resources needed
 - activities by teacher or students
 - time line of events
- IV. What specific, tangible results for students, you, and, or staff do you envision if this grant is funded? 5%
- V. Specifically, how will you disseminate information you learn and resources you obtain to other students and staff? 10%
- VI. Describe how you will inform the Foundation Board of the results of your grant being funded? 5%
- VII. Project Budget: Itemized costs, i.e. travel, lodging, meals, tuition, fees, materials 5%

Scoring Note: The above percentages indicate the relative value in scoring each part of the application. An additional 20% value will be allocated to overall project creativity or innovation.



Maxwell Bardeen was the longtime General Manager of Vicksburg's Lee Paper Company. During the Great Depression, he kept the mill running, spreading the work around so all employees received at least a small paycheck, thereby also keeping the downtown merchants in business. In his 42 years at the mill he was well known throughout the community for his role in establishing the Vicksburg Foundation. Additionally, he was one of the founders of the WMU Paper Science & Engineering Department. Max was a pilot, and was instrumental in the start-up of the "High on Kalamazoo Air Show."

Max Bardeen was also a champion of the Vicksburg Community Schools and Vicksburg Teachers. He approached the school district to establish a program to recognize and encourage teaching innovation and excellence. He also went on to encourage the Vicksburg Foundation to fund the program. The Teacher Incentive Grant Program was established through the Vicksburg Community Schools Foundation in 1986, and through the efforts of Max and Virginia Bardeen, it has grown steadily since that time.

Maxwell Bardeen passed away in 1994, that year both the Vicksburg Community Schools Foundation and the Vicksburg Foundation voted to expand their support of the Teacher Incentive Grant Program. In acknowledging Max Bardeen and his family as founders of the program, it was officially renamed the Bardeen Teacher Incentive Grant Program. Simultaneously, the Vicksburg Foundation made a five year renewable commitment to the fund and increased their annual donation from \$7,500 to \$10,000. The Vicksburg Community Schools is grateful to Max Bardeen for his vision and long-standing commitment to the students and teachers of Vicksburg. We are also grateful to the Vicksburg Community Schools Foundation and the Vicksburg Foundation for supporting teacher innovation and excellence.

Guidelines for The Bardeen Teacher Incentive Grant

Grant Purpose:

- To fund individual research and personal/professional development activities that will result in innovative, teaching and learning practices.
- To fund the purchase of materials necessary for implementation of creative and innovative teaching and learning practices where those materials are outside of the scope of normal curriculum materials, supplies or equipment supplied by the District. All items purchased with grant funds become the property of the school district.

Grant Availability:

- The Vicksburg Foundation makes \$10,000 available per year. That amount may be supplemented by District or private funds.
- Grant awards will generally be limited to \$1,000. Exceptions may be considered based upon the merit of the project proposal and funding availability.
- The Vicksburg Community Schools Foundation review committee reserves the right to recommend partial funding of a grant request and to fund special program requests throughout the year.

Application and Review:

- Applicants are invited to fill out the form on the back of this flyer/brochure and attach to their proposal to be submitted to Beth O'Roark or Tamara Young at VAB by end of day March 1, 2022.
- All technology grant requests (hardware/software) will be reviewed and approved by the Director of Technology before being given to the Bardeen Grant committee for consideration.
- Please indicate if there are matching funds from another source, including personal contributions by the applicant.
- Individual teachers may apply each year. Previous year recipients, however, may receive lower priority in allocation of grant funds. Previous year recipients who have not provided specific implementation feedback to the Foundation Board (See implementation topic VI.) may receive lower priority in allocation of new grant funds.
- Expenditures for meals and mileage should fall within District guidelines, with the exception of meals included in conference registration costs.

Timeline for Awarding Grants:

March 2	The VCSF office will distribute applications to the members of the Bardeen Grant Committee to review and score.
Mid-March	The VCSF – Bardeen Grant Committee will meet after school at VAB to evaluate grants and develop funding recommendations.
April 6	The VCSF Board will take action to approve the funding recommendations.
April 11	The Superintendent's office will mail out grant award letters and instructions for accessing funds.