



BEYOND CRAYONS & COMPUTERS GRANT GUIDELINES

Beyond Crayons and Computers Grants, up to **\$1,000**, awarded through the Merrill Area Community Foundation are designed to enhance and reward innovative teaching, learning, and special motivational activities in **Merrill area schools – public and private, grades pre-K through 12th grade**.

We are looking for **innovative** and **creative** projects that:

- ✓ Demonstrate a sense of **community by partnering with or impacting our Merrill community**.
- ✓ **Enrich** the educational experience, motivate and inspire students, educators and/or the community.
- ✓ Fill a specific need and are educational and fun for students.
- ✓ Are cost-effective.

Projects will be scored as follows:

- ✓ Sense of Community – up to 30 points
- ✓ Creativity and Innovation – up to 30 points
- ✓ Educational Value – up to 20 points
- ✓ Project Fills a Need – up to 10 points
- ✓ Cost-Effectiveness – up to 10 points

Proposals should identify the impact the Community Foundation has on the project. Integration of curriculums is encouraged, and joint proposals from teams of teachers in one or more schools are welcome and encouraged. The participation of parents, volunteers, or other members of the community is highly encouraged. Funding is not generally awarded for items the committee feels should be provided for within the school district's budget, including core curriculum items, staff, or transportation. The committee also tends not to fund refreshments, rewards, or incentive programs. Materials and equipment associated with project funding become the property of the school.

Apply through the Community Foundation's grant management portal at <https://www.grantinterface.com/Home/Logon?urlkey=cfoncw>. "Log On" using your previous credentials if you have applied in the past, or "Create New Account" to begin the application process. Click "Apply" on your dashboard and choose the "Merrill School District / Beyond Crayons & Computers Grants" application from the menu of grant opportunities. Completed applications must be submitted by **October 1** to be considered by the Selection Committee.

If you have any questions in the application process, contact Linda Semling Peterson, Merrill Community Foundation board member, at lindasempt@aol.com; or the Community Foundation of North Central Wisconsin office at info@cfoncw.org or 715.845.9555.

TIME LINE:

- Online applications are due by **11:59PM on October 1**.
- Applicants will be notified of funding decisions by **the end of October**.
- Grants will be awarded to recipients in a presentation in **November**; media will be present for photographs.
- Grant recipients submit a payment voucher when grant money is needed.
- Project funds must be used, and a follow-up grant report filed electronically by the **end of the school year in which funding is awarded**.

Merrill Community Foundation
Merrill, WI 54452

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