

Impact Opportunity Fund 2010-11 Program Overview



Background

The Impact Opportunity Fund was created in 2004 to reduce the economic barriers that negatively affect the educational experiences of students from economically challenged homes. For many of these students and their parents, education related expenses – such as field trips, class fees, musical instrument rentals, bus passes, yearbooks, athletic equipment, eye glasses, class planners, student/class pictures, graduation cap and gowns – are prohibitive. Without financial assistance, many students would not access academic opportunities and participate in extracurricular activities that enable and enrich their educational experiences.

Last year, nearly 5,000 BVSD students participated in the Federal Free and Reduced Lunch program. Clearly, in the current challenging economic environment, there will be even more students/families struggling to make ends meet.

Opportunity Fund Goal

The Impact Opportunity Fund was created to 1) decrease the economic barriers that prevent students from participation and 2) improve student motivation, engagement and success through increased access to academic and extracurricular activities.

Criteria

- Impact Opportunity Funds are to be made available to individual students for a specific purpose; the Impact Opportunity Fund is not intended to subsidize all students in a program or class.
- Students do NOT have to qualify for the Federal Lunch Assistance Program.
- Opportunity Funds are to be used for expenses such as those listed below and are at the discretion of the Principal of each school.

Acceptable Expense Categories

- **Academic Support** Tutoring, Exam fees, other Class fees
- **School Supplies** Basic supplies (pencils, notebooks, etc.), science fair, calculators, musical instruments, art
- **Field Trips** Day trips, Overnight trips
- **Extracurricular Activity/Participation** Athletic expenses & fees, Graduation-related , Yearbooks, School photos, Club fees
- **Transportation** Non-field trip-related, bus passes
- **Health Related** Avoid expense that might otherwise be covered by other community resources

Requirements

1. Funds must be used within the 2010-11 academic year, with the understanding that any unused funds will be deducted from 2011-12 Opportunity Funds.
2. Principals, or qualified school representative, must attend Impact Opportunity Fund meeting on **Wednesday, September 8, 2010 from 3-4pm** at the **BVSD Ed Center**.
3. Principals must submit a Year End Report by **June 6, 2011** to maintain eligibility for 2011-12 Opportunity Funds. A copy of the report is available online: www.ImpactOnEducation.org. For your convenience, a copy of the report is enclosed.
4. Principals must publicize receipt of Impact on Education Opportunity Funds within their school communities.

Process

- Impact on Education will distribute \$130,000 the week of August 24, 2010 to participating schools. By cashing the check, principals agree to use the funds for purposes outlined in this document.
- The amount distributed to each school was based upon the number of participating schools and the school's percentage of the overall population of students enrolled in the Federal Free and Reduced Lunch (FRL) Program as measured by the October 2008 pupil count.
- Funds are expected to be used within the academic school year.
- Participating schools will be announced to the media, district, and school newsletter editors.