Blair PTSA

Mini Grants Program 2026-27

Mini Grants: How to Apply & Timeline

Goal?	Provide mini grants to fund special programs, projects, items, and/or events that benefit individual classes, teachers, students, and the Blair High School Community.
Who Can Apply?	All teachers and staff, individually or in groups.
What Is Deadline?	Apply by Thurs., Oct 1, 2026.
When Are Award Decisions?	Award notice by first week of November.
How Do I Apply?	• Review the Mini Grant Guidelines. • Complete the application available here: https://blairptsa.org/minigrants/ • Email questions to: minigrants@blairptsa.org

Mini Grants: Amount & Use of Funds

How Much Can Be Requested?	The maximum amount is $500. (Typical grants range between $500-$150.)
What Can Funds Be Used For? **(Part 1 of 2)**	1. PTSA will place an emphasis on Mini Grant projects that align with the following MCPS and Blair High School priorities:
	• Projects that improve student achievement in literacy and mathematics.
	• Projects that help reduce chronic absenteeism or tardiness.
	• Projects that provide enrichment opportunities for underrepresented student groups and Emergent Multilingual Learners (EML).
	• Projects that promote collaboration, inclusion and equal access for students with an IEP and 504.

Mini Grants: Use of Funds Continued

What Can Funds Be Used For? **(Part 2 of 2)**	2. Projects that fall outside of the priority areas but demonstrate a clear benefit to the broader student population will also be considered. Examples include:
	• Resources for hands-on experiments and classroom enrichment
	• Interactive tools and resources for learning
	• Funding for special events that enhance student experience and learning (such as cultural events, academic/art/sport competitions, or field trips)
	• Cultivation of student community-building activities (such as gardens or artwork installations)
	• Support for school clubs
	• Community service projects

Mini Grants: Evaluation Criteria

Successful applications will address the following:

- **Need**
  - Clearly articulate a specific need within the school community and how the grant will address it.
  - This could be related to academics, arts, sciences, or supporting underserved student groups, etc.
- **Scope**
  - How many students/Blair families are reached?
- **Lasting Impacts**
  - Will project be one-time or will it benefit students in years to come or purchase items that can be used year after year.
- **Budget**
  - Describe estimated expenses (how much and for what).
- **Ideally demonstrate project innovation / creativity.**

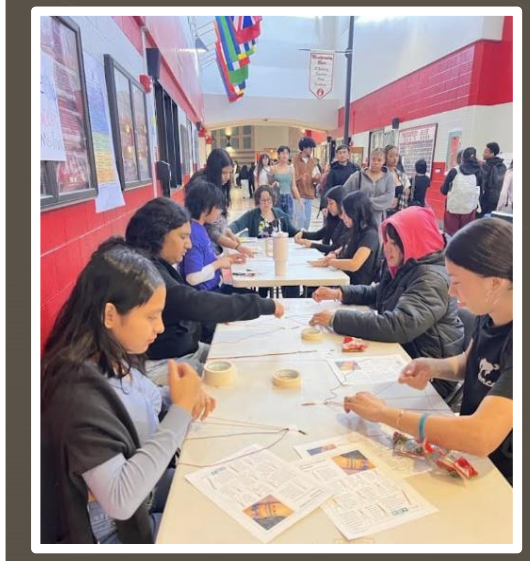
Mini Grants: Application, Reimbursement & Close-out Process

Application Process?	• A group of volunteers from the PTA will review the applications and make the final determination on awards. • The program is competitive and not all applications will be awarded funds. • If your request is denied, you may reapply the next award cycle.
Process For Receiving Funds?	• If awarded a grant, you will have ONE WEEK to affirmatively accept the award. (Award will be rescinded if this step is not taken.) • Awardees make their purchases, save receipts, and request reimbursement.
What to do at end of grant project?	• At end of project we request a brief summary of your activities and a photo when possible.

Friday Art Events Throughout the School Year:

- Sugar Skull Face Painting
- Pep Rally Face Paint
- Navidas Winter Photo Booth & Holiday Card Making
- Native American – Woven Bracelets
- African Pattern Jewelry









Mini Grants: Past Projects

Emergent Multilingual Learners Field Trip to National Museum of African American History

- They practiced reading fluency and comprehension to build their biliteracy skills.
- This field trip encouraged multiple perspective-taking and inspire critical thinking skills and life-long learning.
- Students connected what they'd learned in their U.S. History and English classes to the museum exhibits.



Lunch in front of the Washington Monument

Mini Grants: Past Projects

Blair Mock Trial Club

- The club gives students the opportunity to learn how the legal system works.
- Students study public speaking and how to construct a legal argument, as well as build relationships and hone their team building skills.



Picture taken after winning last regular season competition

Mini Grants: Past Projects

Community Service “Memory Project”

- The National Art Honor Society connected with students in India by painting personalized portraits based on each child’s photo, favorite color, and special interest.
- On the back side, they added an encouraging message and a photo of themselves with the completed artwork.





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Indoor School Soccer League

- T-shirts were supplied for the16 participating teams.
- The league promotes teamwork, enhances mental well-being, and contributes to a more vibrant and inclusive school community.



2024-25 Champions

Club Maya Field Trip to KID Museum

- Blair's Club Maya showcased their culture at the Kid Museum in Bethesda, with stations teaching the public about their indigenous language, Mayan instruments and other cultural artifacts, and holding dance performances.



Mini Grants: Past Projects