

# Teachers' Idea Fund

## Investing in Manitoba Classrooms

### Multi-year Application

# Teachers' Idea Fund – Investing in Manitoba Classrooms

## Agenda

- Purpose
- Priorities
- How to Submit Your Application
- Education Return on Investment
- Reminders
- Teachers' Idea Fund Review Advisory Panel
- Evaluation Criteria
- Follow-up
- Questions

# Teachers' Idea Fund – Investing in Manitoba Classrooms

## Purpose

- **Priority Action:** The Teachers' Idea Fund is a priority action within the government's *Better Education Starts Today: Putting Students First* strategy.
- **Improve Student Outcomes:** Encourage skilled and dedicated teachers, staff, and school leaders across Manitoba who support quality education through innovation each and every day.

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## Priorities

1. Targeted Learning Supports
2. Models of Teaching and Learning
3. Mental Health and Well-Being
4. Transitions in K–12 Education
5. Engage Families and Parents

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## How to Submit Your Application

- **Step 1:** *Share your idea, improvement, or innovation!* Submit your idea using the online application form. The application form requires you to submit a budget and implementation plan and to highlight any areas of potential risk and mitigation strategies.
- **Step 2:** *Demonstrate school's and school division's authority endorsement.* Projects submitted will require school's and school division's authority endorsement.
- **Step 3:** Once complete, your proposal will be submitted for evaluation based on its anticipated outcomes.

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How might we support students with diverse learning needs?

How might we improve the mental health of students?

How might we get our students excited about fractions?

How might we prepare our students adequately for the future?

How might we organize our classrooms to accommodate different learning modes?

How might we re-engage our students?

How might we improve literacy and numeracy scores?

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## Section One: Contact Information and School Authority Approval

- Provide your contact information including name, position, phone number, email address, school name, school division, and location.
- Provide contact information of team members, and describe a plan for collaborating and communicating as a team.
- Indicate whether your principal supports this application, and provide your principal's contact information.
- Indicate whether your superintendent supports this application, and provide your superintendent's contact information.

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## Section Two: Purpose

*What priority does your proposal address?*

- Targeted Learning Supports
- Models of Teaching and Learning
- Mental Health and Well-being
- Transitions in K–12 Education
- Engage Families and Parents



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## Section Three: Project Description

- Project title
- Summary of your proposal
- Define the problem and opportunity.
- Is this new to your classroom(s) or school(s), or is it scaling up an existing initiative?
- Define your proposed improvement or innovative solution.
- Fit with school/school division priorities
- What percentage of impacted students are from target school stakeholder groups?
- Reach of your project
- Does the project involve students from across school divisions?

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## Section Four: Design and Implementation

- What is the proposed timeline?
- Your activities in relation to the timeline:
  - Inputs
  - Activities
  - Outputs
  - Outcomes
  - Impacts

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## Section Five: Evaluation of Impacts and Outcomes

- How will you know if your innovation has made a difference?  
How will success be measured?
- What baseline data will you use (e.g., surveys, current student assessment results)?
- What performance indicators will you use to support your evaluation?
- What tools will you use to collect your data (e.g., surveys, interviews, current student assessment results)?
- How do you plan to share results?
- How will you sustain the innovation in the future?

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## Section Six: Risks and Mitigation

- Indicate the possible risks and unintended consequences of your proposed project.
- Describe the mitigation strategies for risks and unintended consequences.

### Example:

#### iPad Program to Increase Literacy

- halt in program due to COVID-19 restrictions
- disruption in staffing due to illness

### Mitigation strategies:

- Depending on stage of implementation, request an extension, pivot the project (e.g., remote implementation).
- Identify co-teacher to continue with the implementation of the project.

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## Section Seven: Additional Information

- Please include any other relevant information.

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## Section Eight : Budget

- Include the budget items along with the cost, for each year of funding being applied for.
- Indicate if this project will result in any net savings to the school or school division.
- Indicate if there are any cash or in-kind contributions.

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## Section Eight : Budget (Continued)

- consult fees/honorariums
- purchase of equipment and/or software licensing used to directly support the project
- materials, supplies, and other consumables necessary to conduct the project
- teacher release costs
- costs of educational assistant or other staff pertinent to the success of the project
- workshop expenses
- monitoring, evaluation, and dissemination of findings on expenses
- training and/or development in novel/innovative techniques
- field trips, transportation costs

### Example:

Item	Cost
iPads (12)	\$5,817
Literacy Program	\$8,400
Education Assistant (.2 FTE)	\$1,800
Research Assistant (.2FTE)	\$1,500
Teacher and EA Training	\$1,200
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$18,717</b>

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## Non-eligible Expenses

- professional membership fees or subscriptions
- professional development not related to the project
- computer hardware (unless specifically required for the project)
- overhead expenses (classroom space)



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## Education Return on Investment

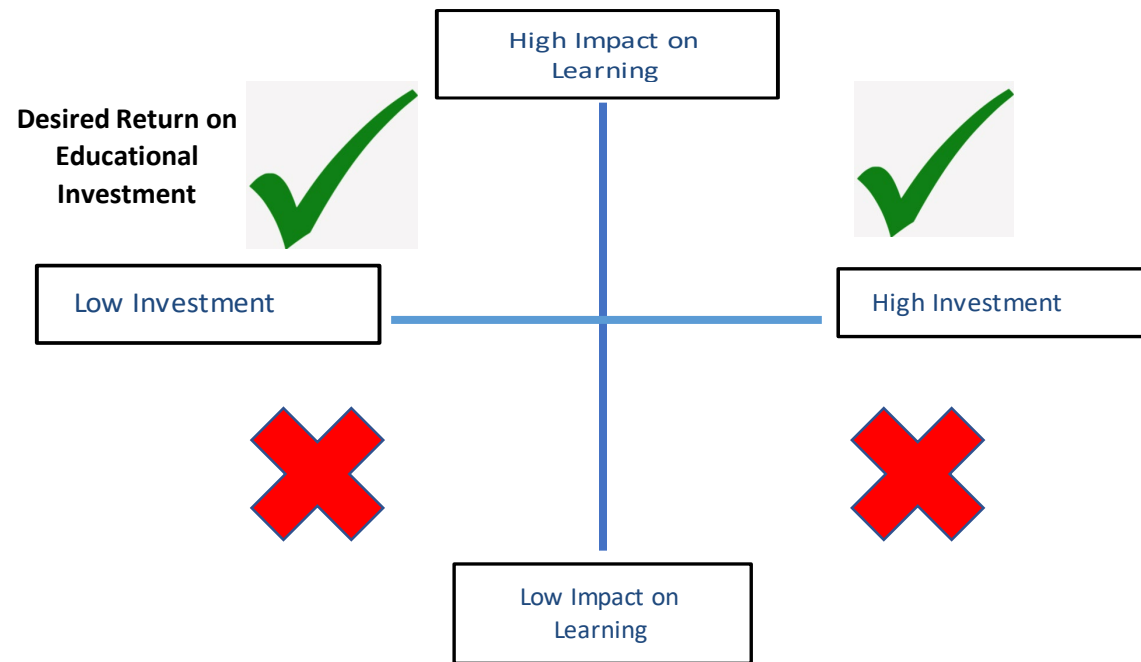
- Funding invested into Teachers' Idea Fund projects should result in positive student outcomes.
- Return on investment (ROI) is a regular metric used in the business industry to estimate value for money.
- This can be difficult (but not impossible) to apply in the context of education.
- The “return” would be a measurable improvement in student outcomes.
- Many investments within school settings are instructional programs in which benefit is quantified based on student achievement or growth, and not in dollars.



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## Education Return on Investment Matrix

- Least desirable outcome would be if a project falls in the low impact on student achievement/high investment category.
- A favourable outcome would be high student achievement/low investment.



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## Reminders

- **Funding:** Funding amount is between \$25,000 and \$150,000 annually for multi-year projects.
- **Timeline:** \$25,000 and over—proposed projects must be completed in a span of two to five years (2021/22 to 2025/26).
- **Critical Friend:** This is a partnership with an external or internal support person who can act as a critical friend to the project, supporting the applicant with the design, implementation, data collection and analysis, and reporting.
- **Improve Outcomes:** Use research and data to enrich teacher development and improve student outcomes.
- **Disseminate Findings:** Plan for sharing the learning and findings.

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## Submission

- When you have completed the form, click CONTINUE.
- You can then view a summary of the completed form. You have the option to print the completed form at this time.
- When you are ready to submit, click “I am not a robot,” and then when ready, click PROCEED.
- A notice will pop up thanking you for your submission, and providing a seven-digit confirmation ID.
- You then have the option to email the ID code to yourself.
- The initial intake for multi-year projects is due **October 14, 2021**.
- Projects submitted by that date will be reviewed first.
- After that, projects will be reviewed on an ongoing basis.

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## Teachers' Idea Fund Review Advisory Panel

- **Review Advisory Panel members comprise diverse specialists, including individuals from**
  - post-secondary institutions
  - the innovation sector
  - industry and business
  - government (Manitoba Education representative)
  - schools (K–12 educators)
- **List of the Teachers' Idea Fund Review Panel Advisory Panel members can be found here: [Better Education Starts Today \(BEST\) Engagement and Advisory Groups – Better Education MB](#)**

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## Evaluation Criteria

Factor	Weight
<p><b>Purpose:</b> Proposal demonstrates understanding of the intent and purpose of the project, and its alignment with the Fund's priorities. Clearly identify the opportunity to be addressed using a range of relevant evidence. Describe the innovative practice selected, including details of why this practice is likely to be effective and worth pursuing. Demonstrate an understanding of the needs of the impacted students.</p>	30%
<p><b>Methodology and Design:</b> Proposal provides a clear action plan that describes the project's timeline, activities to be undertaken, and inputs required. Demonstrate a clear plan for implementation, with a focus on expected outcomes for students. Proposals include a thoughtful plan for sharing learnings and findings.</p>	20%
<p><b>Impact/Outcomes:</b> Proposal demonstrates knowledge and understanding of research and evaluation design that will provide high quality information on impact and outcomes.</p>	30%
<p><b>Risks:</b> Proposal identifies the key risks that could potentially hinder the success of the proposal, including the likelihood of occurrence, and how the risk can be mitigated.</p>	10%
<p><b>Budget:</b> Investments are realistic and allocation aligns with the proposed purpose, scope, and scale. Net savings anticipated to result from the project will be given extra weight and consideration.</p>	10%
<p><b>Overall Proposal Score</b></p>	100%

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## Follow-up: My application was successful! Now what?

- Applications will be reviewed by the panel members.
- Successful applicants will be notified through the school division.
- Funding agreements will be made between the lead applicant, school, school division, and Manitoba Education.
- A report template will be developed to submit back to Manitoba Education.
- A Microsoft Teams group will be created to allow for collaboration and to learn from/about other projects.
- A follow-up session will be scheduled midway through the school year.

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## Questions?

- **Questions?** If you have any questions about this fund or the application process, please contact [teachersideafund@gov.mb.ca](mailto:teachersideafund@gov.mb.ca).