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The Education Fund Awarding Grants to Public School Teachers in Miami-Dade County

Teachers could receive up to \$1,000 to bring their teaching ideas to fruition.

Deadline extended to May 15.

MIAMI, April 28, 2021 – The Education Fund (<u>EducationFund.org</u>), a nonprofit that supports public school teachers and students in Miami-Dade County, announces the release of its 2021 teacher grants so educators can develop and implement new instructional projects that motivate and challenge students to learn.

Teachers are eligible for up to \$1,000 to package and share their most innovative and successful projects. Another grant awards funds to those teachers who want to adopt their colleagues' winning strategies in their classrooms.

"The Education Fund provides teachers with an incentive to try new methods by giving them the financial support they need that otherwise wouldn't be available," said Linda Lecht, president of The Education Fund. "Teachers are every bit as gifted as a star basketball player, a top litigator, or a renowned surgeon, but they don't always get recognized for their talents and efforts. Our work is about surfacing these teachers and rewarding and supporting them for their work on behalf of all our children."

Middle school civics teacher Nelson Borrego said The Education Fund teacher grants encourage creativity in the classroom. Borrego received three grants from The Education Fund to implement technology and robotics programs that he used in his classroom and to launch an after-school club.

"The money helps tremendously," said Borrego, who teaches 7th grade at Fienberg Fischer K-8 in Miami Beach. "Without it, you're on your own. It really helps give teaching life and inspires us to be innovative and develop more ideas that motivate students."

In 2020, The Education Fund awarded 146 grants totaling nearly \$100,000 to educators in public schools in Miami-Dade County.

Eighth grade teacher Raquel Gibson received three grants from The Education Fund. The money helped her buy podcast equipment so her students at George Jones Ayers Middle School in Allapattah could launch their own program. The funds also allowed her to launch a citizen and voter responsibility project.

"The Education Fund grants allow me to open up what I think I can do," Gibson said.

The Education Fund is accepting applications from public school teachers in Miami-Dade County in all subject areas. The deadline to apply is Saturday, May 15. For details, visit EducationFund.org.

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About The Education Fund: Raising more than \$61 million to improve education for public school students and teachers in Miami-Dade County, The Education Fund focuses on bringing innovative methods to our schools; informing the community about public education; and encouraging private sector investment in

public education. Winning numerous awards for innovation, The Education Fund is currently directing Food Forests for Schools, a first-in-the-nation effort to install food forests as eco-labs on school grounds; Ideas with IMPACT, Miami-Dade's only district-wide best practices network; Ocean Bank Center for Educational Materials, the state's first free-supplies warehouse and distribution program; Student Power, an action-government learning pilot; and SmartPath, a college and careers service for students. Visit EducationFund.org or join us at @educationfundmiami on Facebook and Instagram, and @educationfund on Twitter.