

Wellness Grant Opportunity for Detroit Schools

About this opportunity: We have been hearing from young people and their champions that the past two school years have been incredibly challenging and that personal wellness is in a fragile state. We know that this has affected school communities – including students, staff, and families – on many levels. School leaders both deeply understand the needs of and have incredible ideas about how to support their school communities.

Through this grant funding opportunity, we are excited to **enable school leaders to support the social, emotional, mental, and overall well-being of both young people and adults in their school communities and promote a healthy climate and transformative culture in their schools.**

Project design principles: We invite school leaders to apply for **up to \$20,000** to launch or expand activities, projects, or programs that support staff and/or student wellness. *Selected project proposals will be:*

- **Centered on wellness.** It must be clear how the activities supported by the grant support the well-being of people in the school community.
- **Responsive** to what members of the school community – staff, students, parents and caregivers – say they want and need.
- **Collaboratively designed.** The proposal should be designed with input from and as a collective effort of the school leadership team or school culture team and be supported by the school principal.
- **Additive and aligned:** linked to the school’s existing plans (e.g., culture plan, improvement plan, strategic vision).
- **Designed for direct impact in SY 2021-22:** The funds will support people within the school community – staff, students or families – beginning this school year. A budget must be included to show how the funding will be used and the expected reach (how many people served).

Funds may be used to support a variety of activities and approaches, based on what each individual school community wants and needs. We encourage school leaders to consider efforts that can be sustained or built upon, rather than one-time activities. We offer some examples below for consideration, but welcome and encourage school leaders to develop their own project ideas.

SAMPLE IDEAS		
<p style="text-align: center;">Focus on students</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create wellness rooms or “chill out” spaces in the school • Offer yoga, art therapy, mindfulness, and other workshops • Access to mental health services • Programs to support student engagement, transformative culture • Social-emotional learning curriculum 	<p style="text-align: center;">Support for staff</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offer stipends to school staff to use to support their personal wellness* • Training on how to support student mental health and well-being • Access to mental health services • Bring in additional staff capacity to support wellness • Professional learning communities 	<p style="text-align: center;">Community-building efforts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Special events or gatherings that enable school staff, students, and families to connect and engage • Grief and loss groups for students and families • Family support groups

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**Proposals should clearly indicate what will be considered appropriate uses of stipends. Grant funding cannot be used to support stipends that can be used for shopping, haircuts, purchase of alcohol, gift cards, etc.*

Note for Detroit Public School Community District applicants: Grant recipients must comply with all DPSCD policies and procedures. Funds awarded through this program will route through the Grant Compliance Department instead of a school checking account. All purchasing must follow the Procure to Pay process and any stipends must be issued by the Grant Compliance Department.

Who can apply: All K-12 DPSCD and Detroit charter schools are eligible for this opportunity. School leaders (e.g., principal, assistant principal, dean of culture) are invited to apply. Please note that if a school leader who is not the principal applies, the application must demonstrate the principal's support for the proposed project. Only one proposal from each school will be considered. We expect to fund 25 to 30 proposals from DPSCD and charter schools across a range of geographies and grade bands.

How to apply: Please complete the application at this link: <https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/01fee8e6393241ec92de79428a418952>. This application is not intended to be time-consuming; please feel free to keep your responses clear and concise. We anticipate that the application should take no more than 2 hours to complete, including time for outreach and planning. Proposals will be reviewed by a selection committee and evaluated based on the components described above.

Timeline: Applications are due by Friday, October 22, 2021. We intend to notify applicants about their application status by mid-November and to distribute funding in December.

The grants will have an 18-month project period, to enable activities to begin in the 2021-2022 school year and continue into the 2022-2023 school year.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss this opportunity, please contact: Michele Bourdo of Metro Solutions at michele@moxiecoaching.com or Ashlee Schmidt of The Skillman Foundation at aschmidt@skillman.org.

Metro Solutions, Inc. is administering this grant opportunity in partnership with The Skillman Foundation. Grants are supported through The Skillman Foundation's [Wellness Works initiative](#), which is in part funded by the Chan Zuckerberg Initiative.