

**Forum Credit Union Grant Application  
William C Doublestein**

**What will you use the funds for? Please include an itemized list:**

As with most areas of society, COVID-19 has presented a major challenge in the realm of music education. In my nine years teaching, I've never experienced so much uncertainty, so many changes and such a need for flexibility. Instead of focusing on the negative effects of the pandemic, I have chosen to use this time to refine my teaching and think outside the box. This may end up being the most unusual year of my career, but that doesn't mean it has to be the worst. Rather, I want to remember the 2020-2021 school year as a year of creativity, discovery, opportunity and growth.

Last March Boone Meadow Elementary was forced to shift from in-person to virtual learning. During that time I created and posted music lessons to my YouTube channel, and incredibly the material on that channel extended beyond the halls of Boone Meadow and reached nearly 10,000 subscribers all around the world. I based all my lessons on the idea that kids are awesome and learning should be fun!

After the quarantine lifted and students returned to in-person learning, I was tasked with the challenge of revamping my teaching yet again. This year I will be required to teach in the student's home classrooms and alternate open areas rather than using the music room. This presents a massive challenge as my normal teaching utilizes over fifty large instruments that can't be transported quickly or easily. I will also lose the ability to teach folk dancing due to social distancing and space limitations. This year, music education will need to look far different than ever before. Necessary materials need to be easily transported from one classroom to another on a cart, and need to be creative and resourceful creating new learning experiences.

Considering all these limitations, I came up with an idea for a series of high-quality lessons that would connect music to science under Indiana Academic Standard #2 (connecting music to disciplines outside the arts). These lessons would impact every student in our school and could be repeated annually. Each lesson would surround seven different experiments showing the physics of sound. We would see <sup>1</sup> how soundwaves can be visualized using springs and string, <sup>2</sup> how soundwaves move through the air using a wave motion demonstrator, <sup>3</sup> how Oobleck (cornstarch and water) reacts to the vibrations of a speaker, <sup>4</sup> how sound resonates within an air column, <sup>5</sup> how rods of metal produce different pitches when held in different places, <sup>6</sup> how sound disappears in the vacuum of space, and <sup>7</sup> how sand forms shapes when interacting with different frequencies.

These seven demonstrations are sure to capture the imagination and interest of my 541 students at Boone Meadow. They would also be shared with my nearly 10,000 subscriber YouTube audience. I would publically thank Forum Credit Union in each video for making the learning possible. The equipment I hope to purchase comes from PASCO, a leading science equipment supplier; one I have worked closely with to ensure the success of these lessons. If awarded this grant I would also share the equipment with the physics teacher at Zionsville High School, exponentially increasing the impact. Without the help of Forum these lessons would not be possible, and I thank you so much for your consideration!

**Item Details**

- 1) Mechanical Wave Driver- Part# SF-9324 (Quantity 1, \$185/each) Total \$185.00
- 2) Function Generator- Part# PI-8127 (Quantity 1, \$798/each) Total \$798.00
- 3) Banana Plug Cord-Black- Part# SE-9751 (Quantity 1, \$21/each) Total \$21.00
- 4) Chladni Plates Kit- Part# WA-9607 (Quantity 1, \$88/each) Total \$88.00
- 5) String Vibrator- Part# WA-9857 (Quantity 1, \$79/each) Total \$79.00

- 6) Glow String- Part# SE-8690 (Quantity 1, \$15/each) Total \$15.00
- 7) Metal Resonance Strips- Part# SF-9404 (Quantity 1, \$21/each) Total \$21.00
- 8) Snakey- Part# SE-7331 (Quantity 4, \$20/each) Total \$80.00
- 9) Single Section Wave Motion Demonstrator- Part# SE-9601 (Quantity 1, \$349/each) Total \$349.00
- 10) Wave Motion Actuator- Part# SE-7125 (Quantity 1, \$339/each) Total \$339.00
- 11) Resonance Air Column with Speaker- Part# WA-9594 (Quantity 1, \$175/each) Total \$175.00
- 12) Bell Jar- Part# SE-7725 (Quantity 1, \$102/each) Total \$102.00
- 13) Singing Rods- Part# SE-7301 (Quantity 1, \$20/each) Total \$20.00
- 14) Open Speaker- Part# WA-9900 (Quantity 1, \$80/each) Total \$80.00
- 15) Longitudinal Wave Spring- Part# WA-9401 (Quantity 1, \$21/each) Total \$21.00

Subtotal: \$2,373.00

Tax: \$0.00

Shipping: \$121.00

Order Total: \$2,494.00

### **Please tell us what you love most about teaching:**

Teaching combines my two passions, music and education, but the thing I love most about teaching is the kids! I have always been a kid at heart, and I can certainly relate to the kindergarten through fourth graders I get to see every day. I find their curiosity and enthusiasm to be contagious, and I learn a lot just being around them. Having the opportunity to participate in a child's learning is a pure joy, and I think it does as much for me as it does for them.

As an elementary school music teacher I am constantly challenged to create highly engaging and enjoyable lessons for a wide spectrum of diverse learners. I do my best to build relationships and tap into student interests, helping them feel connected and safe. This builds a lot of trust, and it leads to a purpose far more important than learning notes on an instruments or words to a song.

My hope is that my teaching would make a difference in the lives of my students. They are my favorite part about my job, and I hope that the lessons I create and the experiences I lead would inspire them to believe in themselves and strive for excellence in everything they do. Art and beauty is out there, and I am honored to help them find it.