

# DonorsChoose.org

“How to Access Grants”

The directions below provide a step by step guide to navigating the DonorsChoose.org website. Mt. Diablo Unified School District teachers K-12 who teacher either science or math are eligible to apply for grants from Chevron and Dow Chemical.

Each teacher is eligible to apply for up to 3 small projects for \$400 each. Teachers who would like to apply for larger projects may do so but can only apply for 2 projects; One large project (up to \$800) and one small project \$400.

**All projects must CLEARLY describe how the project will support student learning in Science and/or Mathematics in the classroom.**

**To access the DonorsChoose.org website follow the steps below:**

1. Go to [www.DonorsChoose.org](http://www.DonorsChoose.org)
2. Under Announcements (box to the right) click on “Check out our current grant funding opportunities)
3. Scroll down to see Funding Opportunities: Northern California
4. Look for “Double Your Impact: San Ramon, Mt. Diablo, Martinez Unified, and Walnut Creek District Teacher. Click on **log in and submit a project**. A Double Your Impact offer is a way for a corporation or a foundation to double the impact of its gift by offering 50% match offer to projects that meet certain criteria. Teachers will also be eligible for the “Tipping Point Offer. A Tipping Point offer is a way for a corporation or a foundation to bring the cost of a selected project down to \$99. There is no special application process for consideration, so all teachers need to do is submit a project. Tipping Point funding is applied to projects every two weeks.
5. You will see 2 boxes: “First Time?” and “Do we already know you?” If you currently have an existing account click on “Do we already know you?”. If you do not, follow the “First Time?” box and click proceed.
6. Follow the prompts and answer the questions to set up an account.
7. Once you have an account, you will see the option to **Create a Project** (look for **green button**).
8. You will need to follow the prompts and answer the following questions:
  - Name Proposal
  - Step A-List the resources you need (click the Request materials using eSchoolMath)
  - Step B-Summarize you resource request
  - Write ESSAY (introduce your classroom, describe the situation, solution, and empower your donors)
  - Confirm you have reviewed the essay, removed personal names and location, and did not include a website or email address.
9. If you project is funded by Chevron, a Chevron logo will be below your project. A

project will either be funded at 50% or approximately 90% leaving \$99 to be funded by the consumers (people visiting the site to make donations).

10. You can view existing projects by MDUSD teachers. Follow the steps below:

- [www.DonorsChoose.org](http://www.DonorsChoose.org) (home site)
- Click on “See Projects” at the top of the page and to the right
- Go to Locations (click Northern CA), then Districts (Mt. Diablo Unified).
- A list of all projects currently submitted to DonorsChoose will be listed. You will be able to see the types of projects Chevron has funded by the projects that have the Chevron logo below the Dollar amount needed.
- If you click on the School link, you will see which schools have submitted application.

There are other grants available to MDUSD teachers on DonorsChoose. These all describe in detail in the “Funding Opportunities: Northern California” section. They include:

**Science and Math Match Grants:**

- Chevron Corporations
- Dow Chemical
- S.D Bechtel Foundation

**Hands-On Projects to Benefit the Environment for 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Teachers**

- Disney’s Planet Challenge

**Water Stewardship and Clean Water Projects**

- RBC Blue Water

**HP Products (match offer requesting HP products through Quill, Best Buy and CDW)**

- Hewlett Packard

**Projects to Support College and/or Career Level Work**

- Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation

There will be two days to support teachers on how to complete the online application and/or brainstorm project ideas. These support dates will be facilitated by Director of Development, Stephanie Roberts. They will be held at Willow Creek Center on:

November 12 at 3:30-5:30

November 19 at 3:30-4:30

December 7 from 4:00-6:00

Please RSVP to [robertss@mdusd.k12.ca.us](mailto:robertss@mdusd.k12.ca.us) or [preuss@mdusd.k12.ca.us](mailto:preuss@mdusd.k12.ca.us).