WOODFORD COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
AGENDA ITEM

ITEM #: VII H **DATE:** October 26, 2026

TOPIC/TITLE: Approve Grants

PRESENTER: Administrators

ORIGIN:

☐ TOPIC PRESENTED FOR INFORMATION ONLY (No board action required.)
☐ ACTION REQUESTED AT THIS MEETING
☒ ITEM IS ON THE CONSENT AGENDA FOR APPROVAL
☐ ACTION REQUESTED AT FUTURE MEETING: (DATE)
☒ BOARD REVIEW REQUIRED BY

- ☒ STATE OR FEDERAL LAW OR REGULATION
- ☐ BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY
- ☐ OTHER:

PREVIOUS REVIEW, DISCUSSION OR ACTION:

☒ NO PREVIOUS BOARD REVIEW, DISCUSSION OR ACTION
☐ PREVIOUS REVIEW OR ACTION

- ☐ DATE:
- ☐ ACTION:

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Per Board Policy, grant applications must be pre-approved.
SUMMARY OF MAJOR ELEMENTS:

We are requesting Board Approval to apply for and accept if awarded: National Diesel Emmissions Reduction ACT Grant (William Slone); Adorama Studio Upgrade (Casey Cooley); Wacom Lab Grant (Casey Cooley).

IMPACT ON RESOURCES:

TIMETABLE FOR FURTHER REVIEW OR ACTION:

SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATION: ☑ **Recommended** ☐ **Not Recommended**

Yori Jones

Woodford County Schools

Preliminary Grant Proposal Form

After completing and printing this form as a Word document, please send it—along with grant application details or instructions—to the Superintendent's Office.

1. Project title: National Diesel Emissions Reduction ACT (DERA) Grant
2. School(s): District
3. Your name: William Sione
4. Your e-mail address: William.Sione@WoodfordKySchools.us
5. Phone number: 859-879-4647
6. Source of grant: EPA
7. Amount of request: $ up to 45% of Vehicle Cost (School Bus)
8. Proposal deadline: 1/22/2027
9. Today's date: 10/14/2026
10. Briefly describe the project: Grant to Replace Buses to Reduce Emissions
11. What items do you plan to purchase? School Bus
12. What will you ask Woodford County Schools to contribute? The Remaining Balance
13. What is the duration of this grant?
14. Who will write the grant proposal? WCPS Team Member

☑ Approved to complete grant application

☐ Not approved. Reason:

Toni Jones — 10/19/26

Superintendent or Designee — Date

National Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA) 2026

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY OVERVIEW	
Funding Type	Grant
Agency	Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
Purpose	Replace the USA's aging diesel engine fleet by retrofitting or replacing existing diesel engines, vehicles, and equipment with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and California Air Resources Board (CARB) certified or verified technologies.
Program Status	Open on a competitive basis through January 2027. Final date to submit questions to the EPA is November 24, 2026.
Due Date	January 22, 2027, by 11:59pm ET.
Website	https://www.epa.gov/dera/national

FUNDING ELIGIBILITY	
Eligible Entities	Regional, state, local or tribal agencies or port authorities with jurisdiction over transportation or air quality. Nonprofit organizations or institutions that represent or provide pollution reduction or educational services to persons or organizations that own or operate diesel fleets; or have, as their principal purpose, the promotion of transportation or air quality are also eligible. School districts, municipalities, metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs), cities and counties are all eligible entities to the extent that they fall within the definition above. For-profit companies must partner with eligible entities to be eligible to receive funding from the EPA DERA program.
Eligible Vehicles or Station Types	Class 5-8 on-highway vehicles, school/transit buses, locomotives & marine shore power, nonroad vehicles such as those used in construction, cargo handling equipment, agriculture, mining, transport refrigeration units (TRUs), and electrified parking (related to idle reduction technologies). The participating fleet owner must currently own and operate the existing vehicle or equipment and have owned and operated the vehicle during the two years prior to upgrade. The existing vehicle or equipment must also have 3 years remaining of useful life prior to upgrade. Charging and fueling infrastructure is not eligible for funding under this NOFO.
Eligible Fuels	CNG; Diesel; LNG; Battery Electric; Plug-In Hybrid Electric; Propane; RNG; Hydrogen Fuel Cell
Eligible Gross Vehicle Weight	16,001 lbs. - 80,000 lbs.
Minimum Horsepower	0
Eligible Geographic Location	United States; prioritized counties may be found on the EPA DERA website in PDF format.

FUNDING LIMITS	
Maximum Solicitation Funding	$180,000,000
Maximum Vehicle Funding	Up to 45% of vehicle costs for a 0.035 g NOx/bhp-hr. or lower emission limit replacement. See table below for full funding details.
Maximum Equipment Funding	Up to 25% of vehicle costs for a nonroad equipment, locomotive or vessel replacement with an EPA/CARB certified engine. See table below for full funding details.
Maximum Infrastructure Funding	Not applicable
Maximum Applicant Funding	$12,000,000; contingent on EPA Region
Maximum Project Funding	$12,000,000; contingent on EPA Region
Stackability	Mandatory cost share required depending on the project type. State, tribal, local and private funds may be used as cost share for a DERA grant. Other federal grants may not be used as cost share under DERA unless the statute authorizing the other federal funding provides that the federal funds may be used to meet a cost share requirement on a federal grant.

PROJECT REQUIREMENTS

Scrappage Requirement	The vehicle, equipment, and/or engine being replaced must be scrapped or rendered permanently disabled within ninety (90) days of being replaced. If a 2010 EMY or newer highway vehicle is replaced, the 2010 EMY or newer vehicle may be retained or sold if the 2010 EMY or newer vehicle will replace a pre-2009 EMY vehicle, and the pre-2009 EMY vehicle will be scrapped.
Special Lease Provisions	Funding under this NOFO cannot be used for leasing vehicles, engines, or equipment.
Operational Requirement	Projects are expected to operate for 2-4 years depending on the project type and EPA contract.
Public Access Requirement	Public accessibility is not required, but DERA projects should benefit the public according to the programmatic priorities listed in the NOFO.
Reporting Requirement	Notices of Award to selected applicants will indicate how often reports are due, required formatting, and how to submit required reports.
Purchase Order Timing	Funding awarded under this NOFO cannot be used to cover expenses incurred prior to the award date, except for eligible pre-award costs as defined in 2 CFR §200.458 and as authorized by 2 CFR §200.309 and 2 CFR §1500.9.
Deployment Timing	The estimated project period for awards resulting from this solicitation is 24 months, however project periods of up to 48 months will be allowed where justified by the activities, timeline, and milestones detailed in the workplan. The estimated project period of performance start date for awards will begin starting July 1, 2027.

ADDITIONAL PROGRAM DETAILS

Project Type	0.035 g NOx/bhp-hr. or Lower Emission Limit - EPA Funding	0.10-0.036 g NOx/bhp-hr. Emission Limit- EPA Funding	0.20-0.11 g NOx/bhp-hr. Emission Limit- EPA Funding
Highway Vehicle Replacement with Certified Engine	Up to 45% of costs	Up to 35% of costs	Up to 25% of costs
Highway Engine Replacement with Certified Engine	Up to 60% of costs	Up to 50% of costs	Up to 40% of costs

Nonroad/Locomotive/Marine Replacement Project Type	Nonroad/Locomotive/Marine Replacement EPA Funding
Nonroad equipment, locomotive or vessel replacement with certified engine	Up to 25% of costs
Engine replacement with certified engine or zero emission power source	Up to 35% of costs
Nonroad, with unregulated or Tier 1 engine, equipment replacement with current (Tier 4) certified engine or zero emission power source	Up to 40% of costs
EPA certified remanufacture systems	Up to 80% of costs
EPA Verified Highway Vehicle Idle Reduction Technologies when combined with new or previously installed exhaust aftertreatment retrofit	Up to 100% of costs

Verified Retrofit Technologies Projects	Verified Retrofit Technologies EPA Funding	Idle Reduction Projects	Idle Reduction EPA Funding
EPA Verified Fuel and Additive Retrofits when combined with new retrofit, upgrade, or replacement	Cost differential between conventional diesel fuel	EPA Verified Marine shore connection systems	Up to 25% of costs

Verified Retrofit Technologies Projects	Verified Retrofit Technologies EPA Funding	Idle Reduction Projects	Idle Reduction EPA Funding
Alternative Fuel Conversion	Up to 40% of costs	EPA Verified Highway Idle Reduction Technologies without new exhaust after-treatment retrofit	Up to 25% of costs
EPA Verified Hybrid Retrofit Systems	Up to 60% of costs	EPA Verified Electrified Parking Space Technologies	Up to 30% of costs
EPA Verified Aerodynamics and Low Rolling Resistance Tires when combined with new exhaust after-treatment retrofit	Up to 100% of costs	EPA Verified Locomotive Idle Reduction Technologies	Up to 40% of costs
EPA Verified Engine Upgrade Retrofits	Up to 100% of costs	EPA Verified Highway Vehicle Idle Reduction Technologies when combined with new or previously installed exhaust aftertreatment retrofit	Up to 100% of costs
EPA or CARB Verified Exhaust After-treatment Retrofits	Up to 100% of costs		

Woodford County Schools

Preliminary Grant Proposal Form

After completing and printing this form as a Word document, please send it—along with grant application details or instructions—to the Superintendent's Office.

1. Project title: Adorama Studio Upgrade
2. School(s): Woodford County High School
3. Your name: Casey Cooley
4. Your e-mail address: casey.cooley@woodford.kyschools.us
5. Phone number: 859-230-1236
6. Source of grant: Adorama Business Solutions (https://bit.ly/3TsB8FN)
7. Amount of request: Custom studio upgrade, valued up to $50,000
8. Proposal deadline: November 11, 2026
9. Today's date: September 27, 2026
10. Briefly describe the project: Win a custom $50,000 studio upgrade to enhance the media arts production environment at Woodford County High School with professional photo/video equipment, lighting, and audio solutions.
11. What items do you plan to purchase? Professional photo and/or video production equipment, lighting and audio solutions, studio design consultation, production workflow recommendations, and equipment integration support.
12. What will you ask Woodford County Schools to contribute? Nothing is needed.
13. What is the duration of this grant? Q4 2026
14. Who will write the grant proposal? Casey Cooley

☑ Approved to complete grant application

☐ Not approved. Reason:

Yori Jones — 10/19/26

Superintendent or Designee — Date

Woodford County Schools

Preliminary Grant Proposal Form

After completing and printing this form as a Word document, please send it—along with grant application details or instructions—to the Superintendent's Office.

1. Project title: Wacom Lab Grant
2. School(s): Woodford County High School
3. Your name: Casey Cooley
4. Your e-mail address: casey.cooley@woodford.kyschools.us
5. Phone number: 859.230.1236
6. Source of grant: Wacom (https://bit.ly/4ACIO9l)
7. Amount of request: N/A (Classroom lab of 25 Wacom Cintiq 16 pen displays)
8. Proposal deadline: December 5, 2026
9. Today's date: September 27, 2026
10. Briefly describe the project: The Wacom Lab Grant provides schools with professional creative technology to equip a digital art and media lab. Selected high school programs receive a classroom lab of 25 Wacom Cintiq 16 pen displays, along with onboarding support and professional development resources, empowering students with hands-on access to industry-standard tools used in digital art, animation, design, and media production.
11. What items do you plan to purchase? N/A (The grant directly awards a classroom lab of 25 Wacom Cintiq 16 pen displays along with onboarding support and professional development resources).
12. What will you ask Woodford County Schools to contribute? Woodford County Public Schools is not required to contribute any financial match or funds for this grant.
13. What is the duration of this grant? 2026–2027 Academic School Year
14. Who will write the grant proposal? Casey Cooley

☑ Approved to complete grant application

☐ Not approved. Reason:

Yeri Jones 10/19/26