21st century learning in an 20th century building

Classroom Grant

McKinley School

820 North 31st Street Billings, 59101 reyesb@billingsschools.org

0: 281-6216

Mrs. Kacey Olson

820 North 31st Street Billings, 59101 olsonkj@billingsschools.org

0: 281-6212

Application Form

Report Fields

Project Name*

Name of project

21st century learning in an 20th century building

Amount Requested

Amount requested on application.

\$716.00

Grade Level

Please select grade level below.

Primary (K-3)

Primary Subject Area

Please select the primary subject area of your grant.

Language Arts

School

Please select your school from the list below

McKinley Elementary

Number of Students Served

Please enter the number of students that will be served by this grant.

20

Project Cost

What is the total cost of your project?

716.00

Statement of Need

Please describe the need for this project. For example, how will this project impact student learning?

I am requesting funds for the purchase of 2 iPad mini tablets with protective covers for use in my classroom. During our reading and math blocks, we do small group instruction rotations. One benefit of small group rotations is that I have an opportunity to differentiate instruction more effectively for each student. A disadvantage is that while I work with a small group, the other children need engaging and low-

maintenance activities that don't require me to interrupt my small group instruction to manage behaviors and off-task behavior.

While I have many hand-made and purchased activities available for use during rotations, I often find that the children who are to be working independently in the math and reading games area struggle to be successful. The activities I have for the children worked well 5 years ago, but they are not interactive or engaging enough to keep the students' attention anymore. As we move forward in this fast-paced world, I feel that it would be beneficial for students to have access to today's tools for learning versus the tools of five years ago.

McKinley School is a K-5 Title I School located in downtown Billings. Our student population is approximately 60% Caucasian, 13% Native American, 12% Hispanic and 13% from other ethnic groups. African American and Asian, and Native Hawaiian population combined are at 3%. Six percent of our students have one or both parents that are currently incarcerated, and our Homeless population is currently at 12%. 70% of our students receive free or reduced breakfast and lunch daily. The school averages about a 50% transition rate yearly. The majority of our families come from a lower socio-economic group. 94.5% of our North Park area students are living below poverty level.

Research tells us that these same students come to us with less background knowledge, limited vocabulary, fewer experiences outside the immediate neighborhood, and homes absent of books, computers, and people reading.

Primary Goal

Please describe the primary goal of the project and how it blends with School District 2 goals and curriculum.

The primary goal of the project is to provide increased opportunities for students to access varied educational applications that provide practice in reading, language arts, and math skills listed in the MCCS. According to the BPS Learning Objectives for English Language Arts for Second Grade, an BPS student learning objective is that students "...use technology and digital media strategically and capably, ...employ technology thoughtfully to enhance their reading, writing, speaking, listening, and language use, ...integrate what they learn using technology with what they learn offline," and become "...familiar with the strengths and limitations of various technological tools..." In addition, while providing engaging activities for the independent workers, the small group is provided with a consistent, uninterrupted chunk of direct instruction to meet their specific educational needs, in both Math and English Language Arts.

Project Description

Briefly identify the major activities and materials involved in your project.

Major activities include 2.5 hours per day of structured use of ipads during math and reading blocks (20 minutes per student per day in reading, and 20 minutes per student per day in math). iPads would also be available for use in our after school homework program led by classroom teachers and provided specifically to our homeless students. Materials involved in this project include 2 iPad mini tablets and 2 protective cases, as well as educational applications approved by the district for student use.

Professional Development

If your project includes professional development how will it improve student performance?

[Unanswered]

Project Timeline

When will you implement your project?

I would like to implement my project during the 2013-2014 school year, if supplies can be ordered and delivered before the conclusion of the school year. If time does not allow, I will implement the project by mid September of 2014.

Plan for Evaluation

How will you evaluate student outcomes for your project?

I will be able to evaluate student outcomes for this project in several ways. For example, the additional time students will get while working on standards that have already been taught will provide opportunities for practice and mastery of the skills, while keeping students engaged and working independently. Further, I can evaluate whether they are using the applications appropriately and efficiently by reviewing scores, achievements, and progression for each student in the applications provided.

In addition, I will be able to assess the effectiveness of my teaching and the students' learning during uninterrupted small group lessons based upon assessment of the Montana Common Core Standards. I feel that currently, learning in small groups can be very fractured as independent working students find ways to avoid work that involves unsupervised collaboration.

Project Budget

Please explain how the funds from this grant will be spent to support your project goal. You can either type or upload a project budget to show how funds will be used. Please identify other funding sources if applicable.

ed foundation grant 2014.docx I am asking for 2 iPad mini tablets.

Each tablet is \$299 from apple.com $$299 \times 2 = 598.00

I am also requesting protective cases for each of the iPads. They can be viewed at https://edu.igearunlimited.com/product/ipad-slim-tough-case-g3

Each case is \$59.00 from iGear Unlimited online. $$59.00 \times 2 = 118.00 \$118 + \$598 = \$716.00

Supervisor Approval*

I have received approval from my supervisor to apply for this grant.

yes

Attachment 1

Please attach any photos, pages from catalogs, or other documents below. This is completely optional.

[Unanswered]

Attachment 2

[Unanswered]

Attachment 3

[Unanswered]

File Attachment Summary

Applicant File Uploads

• ed foundation grant 2014.docx

21st Century Learning in an 18th Century Building

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