

Boosting Conflict Resolution Skills at Highland

Classroom Grant

Highland Elementary

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Application Form

Report Fields

Project Name*

Name of project

Boosting Conflict Resolution Skills at Highland

Amount Requested

Amount requested on application.

\$299.96

Grade Level

Please select grade level below.

Primary (K-3)

Primary Subject Area

Please select the primary subject area of your grant.

Counseling/Behavioral

School

Please select your school from the list below

Highland Elementary

Number of Students Served

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

300

Project Cost

What is the total cost of your project?

299.96

Statement of Need

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

When schools invest time in purposeful resolution programs, studies consistently show: (1) Improvement in academic achievement, reduction in time spent in discipline, financial cost savings as a result of fewer absences, and an overall improvement in school climate. (2) A decrease in violence, improvement in classroom management, and enhancement of students' social and emotional development. (Ohio Conflict

Management Initiative of 1994, 1997, 1999 and 2001) While students at Highland are slowly developing conflict resolution strategies, more can be done to further reduce incidences and reports of bullying and hurtful behavior.

Students complete an anonymous bullying survey each spring at Highland Elementary. The results of the survey are compared each year to identify needs or changes to the anti-bullying guidance lessons.

The Kelso's Choice Conflict Management curriculum was implemented in grades 1-6 during the 2012-2013 school year. Statistics from the annual bullying survey showed a drop in reports of students feeling bullied in the classroom, bathroom, lunchroom, hallways, and to and from school from May 2012 to May 2013. Unfortunately, student reports of feeling bullied on the playground increased during this time by 7%. During 2012, 43% of students reported feeling bullied 6 or more times, 31% felt bullied 3-5 times and 26% felt bullied 1-2 times. However, in 2013, this trend completely reversed: 28% felt bullied 6 or more times, 30% felt bullied 3-5 times and 42% reported feeling bullied 1-2 times. This is a significant change that I largely attribute to the Kelso's Choice curriculum.

Because research so strongly supports that an effective conflict resolution program results in a decrease of office referrals, absenteeism and violence among students, while positively contributing to a healthy school climate and improved student academic achievement, it is important for Highland to acquire the resources to continue school improvement.

Primary Goal

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

Our goal at Highland is to reduce bullying behavior while equipping students with effective strategies for managing conflict with peers. With the new Stand Up to Bullying initiative in the district, it is more important than ever for students to know how to identify and understand the difference between conflict and bullying. It is also essential for students to learn and practice effective strategies for resolving conflict so that small problems don't escalate into bigger problems when interacting with peers.

Because of the incredible results from the 2013 Highland bullying survey, it is important to continue the education of conflict resolution skills through this effective curriculum. Additional Kelso's Choice resources will provide this opportunity to Highland students.

Project Description

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

In an effort to continue student competency and confidence in their conflict resolution skills, additional support through the Kelso's Choice curriculum will be provided through classroom guidance lessons. These educational opportunities are available through the Kelso's Booster Kit and Kelso's Counselor Activities Toolkit. The purpose of these kits is to provide additional support and resources to the core curriculum program, which has already been implemented at Highland. Each kit includes a DVD with ten different vignettes that demonstrate for students the practical application of the strategies they are taught. The DVD's are an invaluable resource for students to conceptualize the nine strategies they are taught for resolving conflict. The vignettes depict students and situations that the students can relate to. Also included in the kits are additional lesson plans, reinforcement and craft activities, and materials specifically prepared for parent out-reach.

The Kelso's Choice curriculum teaches students to discriminate between small and big problems. Small problems are conflicts that students can manage on their own. At the center of the curriculum is a "wheel" of nine strategies from which to choose. These strategies include: go to another game, talk it out, share and take turns, walk away, ignore, apologize, wait and cool off, tell them to stop and make a deal. If a student tries two of these strategies, and they are not successful, the small problem becomes a big problem. Students learn that big problems are always taken to an adult for assistance. Big problems also include situations that are dangerous or against the law, such as a peer who is hurt, bullying, or breaking the windows of the school.

As the counselor, I prepare and deliver guidance lessons to each class twice a month during the school year. Every student at Highland receives instruction through the guidance curriculum. Guidance lessons are a comprehensive approach to teaching personal and social skills, and contribute toward a common language

between all students and staff members. Teachers at Highland are extremely supportive of the Kelso's Choice curriculum and reinforce the conflict resolution strategies with students on a daily basis. The additional Kelso's Choice curriculum resources being requested will be incorporated into these classroom guidance lessons, increasing student application and confidence in their conflict management skills.

Professional Development

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

This project does not include professional development. All materials are received ready to implement with brief planning and preparation.

Project Timeline

When will you implement your project?

Kelso's Choice booster curriculum materials would be integrated into guidance lessons during the 2014-2015 school year at Highland.

Plan for Evaluation

How will you evaluate student outcomes for your project?

Student outcomes will be evaluated by continuing to analyze the results of the annual bullying survey at Highland. It is anticipated that, with the implementation of these extension lessons and activities, reports of bullying on the playground (especially) will decrease, as well as the other areas previously referenced. New questions related to the specific Kelso's Choice strategies were included in the 2013 survey. These questions will remain on the survey, and new data collected in May 2015 will be compared to evaluate student use and effectiveness.

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.

Kelso's Booster Kit: \$149.98

Kelso's Counselor Activities Toolkit: \$149.98

Shipping: Free

Total Amount Requested: \$299.96

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.

kelsobooster.jpg

Attachment 2

kelsocounselortoolbox.jpg

Attachment 3

[Unanswered]

File Attachment Summary

Applicant File Uploads

- kelsobooster.jpg
- kelsocounselortoolbox.jpg

THE KELSO BOOSTER CURRICULUM



