

Breaking the Mold: Educating Our Future

Classroom Grant

Highland Elementary

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Application Form

Report Fields

Project Name*

Name of project

Breaking the Mold:Educating Our Future

Amount Requested

Amount requested on application.

\$1,000.00

Grade Level

Please select grade level below.

Intermediate (4-6)

Primary Subject Area

Please select the primary subject area of your grant.

Technology

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.

24

Project Cost

What is the total cost of your project?

1000.00

Statement of Need

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

Each day I watch my fifth graders step back in time as they enter my classroom. I greet them at the door daily and watch them turn off their cell phones and smart phones to stash them away until the end of the day. They step through the door into a classroom that is struggling to break into the 21st century. The technology levies and PTSA grants that have helped our school with the steps forward are wonderful, but they leave us

short of what the students and teachers need to be 21st century learners and educators. I have a great Hitachi interactive projector this year that my students are thrilled with each day. They see me learning daily how to teach them better through this piece of technology and thrive for more. While I have 6 district provided classroom PCs, a document camera, a MacBook and this Hitachi interactive projector, my students are limited to the access and creative capabilities that are required of them to meet the technology and Montana State standard expectations. Our school has two aging MacBook labs and a new Chrome Book lab. These are shared between the 16 classrooms at our school. The six PC stations in my room are inconsistent and at times unreliable with the tools we desire to use. Limitations abound. My principal tells me that there is not one iPad in all of the 5 intermediate classrooms in my building. It is good to hear that each primary class has a few iPads. What will those students do when they get to the intermediate? Step back in time? Loose interest in learning? Feel trapped with old ways of learning? This makes me remember the YouTube video that has been around for a few years that shows 21st century students asking for a 21st century education and the ability to use technology tools.

At school, we are teaching students to be responsible cyber community members and take steps to fight cyber bullying. As with all skills we expect students to master, we give them opportunities to practice with our guidance and supervision in order to correct and redirect as they learn. Why then would technology practice be anything different? If we want competent, creative technology users, they need the access and projects to help develop the necessary skills to reach these goals. Montana K-12 Technology Content Standards 2.2.

It is time for my students to have what they need to be ready for their future. My students and I need tools to collaborate, create, build community, and become technologically literate. By adding two iPads to our classroom, we are one step closer to what we need. This 2-minute video shows clearly what 21st century learning involves. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qwJlhZcAd0I> As the young adults of 2025, they will need to be ready jobs that we can not even imagine at this time.

Primary Goal

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

The primary writing goal of these projects is for the learner to use technology, including the iPads, to meet the following Montana Common Core Standards for English Language Arts and Mathematics and the Montana K-12 Technology Content Standards.

The Montana K-12 Technology Content Standards Framework states that they (students) will use technology and digital media strategically and capably to enhance their reading, writing, speaking, listening and language use. These projects are to reinforce the four benchmark expectations for grade 4 of the Montana Technology Content Standards and to work on towards the grade 8 benchmarks. These types of projects specifically address the following benchmarks under each strand: 1.1, 1.2, 2.2, 2.4, 3.1, 3.2, and 4.3.

Even the ELA Common Core Standard 5.RL.7 states that students will analyze how visual and multimedia elements contribute to the meaning, tone or beauty of a text.

Project Description

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

There are many ways I would like to see an iPad 2 used in my classroom. Some project ideas include the use of the apps like Plickers, Educreations, Audio Memos and Puppet Pals for math, language and reading.

While recently attending training for my Hitachi projector, I was introduced to the app Plickers. I was able to go back to school and borrow an iPad to try it in my class. My students loved the interactive aspect and

the instant data. The app and paper clickers are free and give instant data for graphing and data collection for math. I can quickly assess the students' knowledge of vocabulary, grammar, alphabetizing, social studies content, and many more topics. These tools will give me the ability to differentiate by student needs very quickly.

I was able to visit a classroom that used iPads to teach with the Educreations software and the Reflector Airplay Receiver. Here the teacher was able to use the iPad2 as an interactive tool that reflected student work to the front board for the benefit of all the class instantly. These pieces of work can be saved for future reference and as teaching tools. This would be a natural addition to the Hitachi interactive projector that we already have. The teacher commented that students took great pride in the daily experience and were willing to explain for the class. My principal has purchased the Reflector program to use with the classes in our school. The collaborative nature of student responses meets the standards in Montana K-12 Technology Content Standards Framework Technology Content Standard 1.1 use multiple approaches to explore alternative solutions. Oh, I can't wait!

Rachel McAnallen, PhD is a professional development instructor that recently visited Billings to teach teachers powerful adaptations to the teaching we do daily. On her website she states, "Mathematics is probably one of the hardest subjects for students to learn and understand. It is not the fault of the subject itself but the way it is taught. Because we are a society that depends on the written and spoken word, we as teachers, have a tendency to teach mathematics only through these mediums...Learners need to be taught mathematics through the senses, that is why we call it number sense." <http://www.zoidandcompany.com/Home.html> McAnallen stated at the training that the power of collaborative learning through the varied processes increases students' confidence and ability to problem solve. Students needed to see varied methods in order to develop skills needed to solve problems and learn to think and rethink a topic. With an iPad set in my class, students can collaboratively solve and explain problems and their thinking with Educreations. Montana Math Common Core State Standard 5.NBT.2 I can also use the camera feature of the iPad to reflect different methods done on paper or whiteboards throughout the room. They learn from each other through their senses with my guidance.

The iPad is valuable tool for many subjects. Reading fluency is a difficult skill to keep fifth graders practicing. With an iPad, they can practice and record the weekly fluency exercises given in the Lead 21 series. I can create a Voki or use Audio Memos, a free voice recorder app, to record a model reading of these Lead 21 selections. They can listen to the recording and read along. Then, they can record their own reading and submit it to me digitally. Growth can be shown over time with the digital recordings. Students can take ownership in their learning and are able to monitor their own progress as they record and listen each week. ELA Common Core Standard 5.RF.4 – Read with sufficient accuracy and fluency to support comprehension.

Professional Development

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

The professional development plan is to take a course like the one offered through MSU-Billings, EDCI 593-404 Using the iPad for Teaching and Learning and EDU 494-400 Using the iPad for Teaching and Learning.

The class is held Saturday, April 27th and Saturday May 4th at Lincoln Center, 415 N 30th St., Billings. MT.

Course Description:

This course will be a hands-on exploration of the iPad as a teaching, as well as a learning tool. Basic operations of the device as well as ideas for implementation into the classroom will be explored. The first half of the course will be focused on learning the basics of the iPad and using it as a teaching tool. The second half

of the course will be focused on exploring Apps for learning and implementation strategies. Minimum of 10 participants needed.

I may need to find another training due to the timing of this class and the timeline for grant award notification. I plan on covering the cost for this training personally.

Project Timeline

When will you implement your project?

Materials will be ordered as early as possible. These projects will begin this spring, if possible, but will be used in the years to come. The plan is to begin within the first two weeks with the Educreations and Reflector program to begin creating work and explanations. We would begin to use the Plickers and the recording for fluency immediately. By the end of the first quarter, students would be creating digital stories with the Puppet Pal app and other creations apps. These projects will be used daily, weekly and quarterly throughout the school year.

Plan for Evaluation

How will you evaluate student outcomes for your project?

Students will be assessed by teacher observations and rubrics for project completion based on the Montana State Standards for the subject and technology specific standards assigned to each project.

The students will collect their projects in a D2App folder and will be able to have future access to their work to measure their own growth over the year.

Standardized testing, NWEA and SmarterBalanced, will also show student growth from teacher meeting student needs through differentiation.

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.

\$ 798.00 for 2 Pad 2 WiFi 16GB(each at \$399.00 when purchased through the district)

\$76.56 for 2 iPad 2 cases from Speck Products HandyShell Protective Case for iPad 2/3/4 - Black/Dark Grey (SPK-A1207) by Speck through Amazon at \$38.28 each and free shipping

\$49.90 for 2 iPad screen covers from <http://www.ghost-armor.com> (free shipping)

\$75.54 for iTunes card for apps (Apple Store)

\$1000.00 total grant request

My plan is to submit a matching request to the Highland PTSA and Highland Technology Committee to double the opportunities for my students.

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.

Attachment 2

Attachment 3

File Attachment Summary

Applicant File Uploads