

Clicking into Common Core

Collaborative Classroom Grant Application

Cougar Pride Yearbook / Riverside M.S.

Mrs. Darci Rogina
3700 Madison Avenue
Billings, 59102

roginad@billingsschools.org
O: 406-281-6000

Mrs. Darci Rogina

3700 Madison Avenue
Billings, 59101

roginad@billingsschools.org
O: 1-406-281-2099
F: 1-406-255-3534

Application Form

Report Fields

Project Name*

Name of Project

Clicking into Common Core

Amount Requested

Amount Requested

\$3,500.00

Grade Level

Program Area of Request

Middle School (7-8)

Primary Subject Area

Please choose the primary subject area.

Language Arts

School

Please select your school.

Riverside Middle School

Applicants*

Please list the educators collaborating on this grant.

Mrs. Rogina, Mrs. Knutson, Mrs. Jesse

Number of Students Served

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

3000

Project Cost

What is the total cost of your project?

3,500

Statement of Need

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

Riverside Middle School is a Title I school, with over 50% of our students on free and reduced lunch. Many of our students come from homes that do not place a high value on education because many of the parents did not finish high school let alone proceed to higher education. Many students who come from environments that do not prioritize education are even harder to engage in learning than the average middle school student, yet these same students are a primary target in our school. Success in middle school is a great indicator of success in high school and desire to pursue further education. Making assessments fun and "game-like" with constant interaction increases the likelihood of immersion in the lesson.

Even though the MimioVote is available in the 24 pack, we want to order the 32 pack. In the past, Language Arts classes were limited to 15 or so kids. However, in recent years, classes are closing in on 30 students per class. So, a 24 pack would not meet the classroom needs.

While Riverside's language department does have a small budget, it is not enough to cover the cost of two packs of MimioVotes. Even though the district recently received a technology bond, the funds are primarily allocated to updating computers and software.

Any help from the Billings Education Foundation will be greatly appreciated.

Primary Goal

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

Joining the National Common Core and moving toward Professional Learning Communities pushes teachers to work more closely together and hold one another to a higher level of accountability. The MimioVotes provide immediate data that can easily be compared between classes and teachers. By having two sets of MimioVotes, two teachers can even assess students on the same day, making comparative results much more accurate. Then, by using the results, we will be able to determine where to most effectively focus class time in order to make Adequate Yearly Progress.

Project Description

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

When taking the Educational Technology Master's program, MimioVotes came highly recommended to Mrs. Rogina. Because every student is held accountable to answer every question, no one sits idle, passively observing the learning process of others.

When using MimioVotes, students can see how well they did in comparison to others without being put on the spot in front of the class. Students are more willing to try when they do not face public failure, building inclusion and confidence for IEP kids.

Over the summer, the English department plans to create a series of exercises and formative assessments that align with Common Core. The exercises will consist of a bank of sample problems that the teacher can use to guide students toward mastery. The assessments will consist of 10 multiple choice questions that center on a particular skill. For instance, one formative assessment might center on nouns and another on elements of a plot and still another on the type of writing or the main idea of a selection of reading.

Since not all students learn at the same rate, it is imperative to create at least five assessments for each key concept in the seventh and eighth grade curriculum. We estimate about 5 mini assessments must be

mastered by each student per quarter. This would be followed by longer summative assessment at the end of the quarter. I have not included an example of an assessment because we are still developing them.

We considered putting the formative assessments on a Google form, but our school has an on going accessibility problem because we have too few computers to meet our school needs, especially during times of state testing. Having two sets of MimioVotes in our department guarantees accessibility.

Because MimioVotes provide immediate feedback, teachers can reteach concepts that students seem to be misunderstanding. The reteaching will happen before students have the chance to "practice doing it wrong!"

Students who have used MimioVotes before all seem to agree that the MimioVotes are "fun" and help to keep them engaged on the task at hand. Teachers who have used MimioVotes have nothing but positive comments, noting the efficiency of using a tool that not only guides the direction of whole class instruction, but also records individual scores.

The only materials needed are the MimioVotes, the software that comes with them, and some elbow grease from me.

Professional Development

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

Fortunately, all 3 educators in our department have already had professional development on the MimioVotes. Hence, this grant is solely for the purpose of acquiring the equipment.

Project Timeline

When will you implement your project?

The MimioVotes will be purchased immediately following receipt of grant funds. They will be used for several years by the English department or other departments that need to borrow them when they are not in use by the English teachers.

Plan for Evaluation

How will you evaluate student outcomes for your project?

We will be able to observe student engagement and compare assessment scores with those done this year not using the MimioVotes. Also, we will be able to compare scores from one year to the next.

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.

We would like to purchase two MimioVotes. Currently, MimioVote Assessment System runs 1,599 per system at the educational discount through Mimio. The English department will pick up the cost not covered by a grant through our department budget.

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.

Mimio_Vote.png

Attachment 2

Attachment 3

File Attachment Summary

Applicant File Uploads

- Mimio_Vote.png

