

Engaging Students as Active Learners

Collaborative Classroom Grant Application

Billings Career Center

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Application Form

Report Fields

Project Name*

Name of Project

Engaging Students as Active Learners

Amount Requested

Amount Requested

\$1,599.00

Grade Level

Program Area of Request

High School (9-12)

Primary Subject Area

Please choose the primary subject area.

Mathematics

School

Please select your school.

Career Center

Applicants*

Please list the educators collaborating on this grant.

Career Center Mathematics Department:

Chrissy Rossow

Steve Lehman

Dave Maier

Number of Students Served

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

200

Project Cost

What is the total cost of your project?

1599.00

Statement of Need

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

The Smart Response system will help meet many needs that present themselves daily within a classroom. The first, and one of the most important, is that this response system will help engage students as active learners. Research in educational technology shows that the use of interactive response systems improves classroom interactive atmosphere. If students do not feel engaged in the learning process, they are less likely to work hard to make sense of the material and therefore, less likely to perform well on assessment. These tools can also help students to stay engaged without having the pressure of always having to be right. Engaged students are most often successful students!

The second classroom need that will be met with these tools is the ability for the teacher to instantly assess learning and accordingly which can increase student participation and improve learning outcomes. The ability of the instructor to gauge student understanding and respond accordingly is extremely powerful. The Smart Response system is a quick and effective way to gauge this understanding while allowing students to answer honestly and remain anonymous to their peers.

The third classroom need that will be met with this tool is increased motivation of its users. Lack of motivation can come from many places, such as intimidation, lack of preparation, or disinterest. Since responses can be anonymous with clickers, students who may be intimidated or shy, feel more comfortable participating. Clickers can also address the situations of unpreparedness and disinterest by requiring every student in attendance to respond to the questions posed before feedback can be offered.

Primary Goal

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

The new Common Core curriculum requires that technology be an integral part of a student's education process. Students not only deserve and expect this, they also desire open access to information. The smart response clickers provide this instant information to students. It is a form of technology that can be used daily to strategically engage students and motivate them to become active, rather than passive receivers of information. This tool will allow students to structure, manipulate, and analyze information, just as they will in college and life and the new Common Core curriculum is based around college and career readiness for each and every student.

Project Description

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

The Smart Response system would be used as a major activity each day in class. I would use them daily to gauge student understanding. This understanding can be gauged both formally or informally, depending on the need of the current lesson. I may create formative or summative assessment in advance or ask spontaneous questions mid lesson to gauge student comprehension.

Another major use of this system would be used to keep students actively engaged in daily lessons. It allows for students to participate and share their true feelings and ideas without being embarrassed. While also allowing the teacher an efficient way of making sure each student is engaged and participating.

Yet another major activity that I could use this system for would be to conduct interactive lessons that were created for use with the Smart Response systems. In addition to lessons I will create myself, there are already many pre-made lessons that would work wonderfully with the various mathematics curriculums I teach. Smart Exchange is one such website that contains many useful pre-made lessons.

Professional Development

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

My project does not require additional professional development. I am a participant in the TILT program and am receiving the needed professional development and support through this program. I will provide the needed professional development and training for the other 2 members of the math department at the Career Center to ensure that they implement this tool in the manner that most benefits their needs.

Project Timeline

When will you implement your project?

I have already utilized smart response systems that I have borrowed from various other individuals as well as the MimioVotes, which are very similar in nature. I would like to start the school year next year by having a set located in my classroom that the students would be familiar and comfortable with so that we can seamlessly, use them on a daily basis.

Plan for Evaluation

How will you evaluate student outcomes for your project?

When I implement new tools or strategies in my classroom, I commonly keep a journal in which I record my observations and ideas on what is working and what is not. In this journal, I would keep track of how often I modify my instruction based on the responses I received from the students. I would do this in an attempt to make sure I am using the Smart Response system to its full potential.

I would also keep track of both the formative and summative assessment that the smart response records and compare these to final assessments of units. I would use this assessment data to gauge improved learning outcomes and increased student participation throughout each unit of study.

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.

I have no other additional funding sources currently lined up.

My budget for this project includes:

\$1599 for a set of Smart Response XE System with Receiver and 32 Remotes

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