

First Grade Dream Team Goes Interactive

Collaborative Classroom Grant Application

Beartooth

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Application Form

Report Fields

Project Name*

Name of Project

First Grade Dream Team Goes Interactive

Amount Requested

Amount Requested

\$3,500.00

Grade Level

Program Area of Request

Primary (K-3)

Primary Subject Area

Please choose the primary subject area.

Language Arts

School

Please select your school.

Beartooth Elementary

Applicants*

Please list the educators collaborating on this grant.

The grant, "First Grade Dream Team Goes Interactive," is being sought after by Mrs. Kristy Brammer, Mrs. Celeste Peel, and Mrs. Cressida Carroll from Beartooth Elementary. Many other teachers will be able to use the interactive Mimio projector when they are in the classroom. This will include the health enhancement teacher, counselor, reading specialists, foster grandparent, instructional para-professionals, junior fields, and student teachers.

Number of Students Served

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

45

Project Cost

What is the total cost of your project?

3500

Statement of Need

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

"First Grade Dream Team Goes Interactive" is a proposed grant project that is being written collaboratively amongst four first grade classrooms at Beartooth Elementary. Mrs. Lynda Chase, Mrs. Martinez-Brink, and Miss Melissa Ash have teamed up to complete a grant application that is also titled, "First Grade Dream Team Goes Interactive." While Mrs. Kristy Brammer, Mrs. Celeste Peel, and Mrs. Cressida Carroll have combined their efforts for the maximum benefit of their first grade students.

The purpose of the "First Grade Dream Team Goes Interactive" grant is to secure funding for the Mimio Short Throw Projector technology for Mrs. Brammer and Mrs. Peel's classrooms in first grade. It is our hope that our group grant, as well as the group grant of Mrs. Chase and Miss Ash, are funded. This will ensure that we are able to communicate the extraordinary capabilities of the Mimio while teaching School District 2's adopted curriculum with all first grade classes at Beartooth.

Our newly adopted reading series, Lead 21, will be showcased with the use of the Mimio. Any of the unit stories can be projected with the Mimio. The stories that are projected have many options that can be accessed with Mimio technology. Students will be able to search for text evidence, click on illustrations and photographs for more information, and identify meanings and details within the text. At a glance, it is obvious that the Mimio will support and enhance each of the learning standards stated in our curriculum. For a specific example, we could project our concepts big book and have students highlight and identify major events in a story using key details. This would serve as an informal assessment to standard 1.RL.3. Or we can create a specific math lesson grouping objects by tens to demonstrate mastery of standard 1.NBT.2.a. These are just two examples of the many lessons we will use to teach the first grade curriculum.

We will be a terrific support system for each other as we learn the Mimio technology together. We are very fortunate at Beartooth in that two TILT members, Mrs. Mandy Huck and Mrs. Traci Piltz, are staff members. The support of our "1st Grade Dream Team" as well as the TILT members will ensure that the Mimio is being used to its full potential for the maximum benefit of our students.

Children of today are growing up in a fast paced world that is technology centered. Twenty-first century students are acclimated to a style of learning that embraces technology. It is vital for today's teachers to provide opportunities for students to incorporate technology as often as possible. Beartooth Elementary is a Title 1 School. Many of our students do not have access to important educational technology due to their socio economic status. Who will provide these crucial lessons in technology if we do not? We cannot afford to let any students be left behind. Preparing students for the future starts with a Mimio Short Throw Projector in first grade.

The Mimio serves as interactive classroom technology that will reach all learners regardless of their abilities. It is crucial for teachers to incorporate all styles of learning, such as audio, visual, and tactile learners. The Mimio allows teachers to meet these various needs in a fun, creative, and engaging manner. The Mimio is an exceptional instructional tool that will support our students who face learning difficulties and extend those who are ready for a challenge.

Children love to play games with technology. Why not turn the opportunity to play games into an educational experience? The game aspect will hold even the most distracted students' attention. Students will be extremely excited to participate in any lesson that involves the Mimio because it has a similar feeling of a game setting. Meanwhile, many important learning objectives will be achieved, class participation will increase, and student behavior will improve.

Primary Goal

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

Our primary goal of the "First Grade Dream Team Goes Interactive" is to: enhance the current learning of our first grade students with the addition of Mimio technology. The Billings School District Curriculum that has been aligned with Common Core standards will be supplemented and driven to a higher level because of direct student involvement and deeper student engagement.

An additional goal that originates from our grant will be stronger language, math, science, and social studies lessons created by our first grade team members. We will have the opportunity to tailor lessons to fit our learners. These lessons will then be shared among our first grade team, as well as with other first grade classes throughout our school district. It will be extremely beneficial for our teachers to be able to collaborate and share lessons. We will be able to reflect on lessons and make modifications to better reach our learners.

Project Description

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

We are so excited about the possibilities and options that come with this project. Our first grade PLC team is collaborating on this project to obtain grants for a total of four Mimio Interactive Projectors for the first graders of Beartooth Elementary. If we are funded with an Education Foundation grant, we would be able to collaborate on creating and finding useful lessons, engaging students on a new level, accommodating all learning styles, as well as getting back the front space in our classroom because the projector will be mounted to the classroom wall instead of positioned on a table in front of the classroom. The front space of a classroom is very important for students who struggle with behavior or attention issues. These challenging students will then have a front row seat to interact with the Mimio and teacher. All of these factors contribute to more effective teaching and more learning taking place in our classrooms.

The use of a stylus will enable students to work interactively with the Mimio. The Mimio software is designed to be user friendly. There are many websites and Mimio lessons that have been created and are available online for teacher use in the classroom. One of the best things about this project is that we can take the Mimio out of the box, have it mounted, and use it the next day!

Before students are able to use the interactive white boards they will have training on procedures and rules so that they know how to care for it and use it responsibly. This should be reviewed for some of the first graders because they had access to an interactive whiteboard in Mrs. Piltz's Kindergarten class. We will also be asking our school counselor to give a lesson on internet safety. This will give our students the foundation for safe and responsible care.

If the Education Foundation funds the Mimio project, the only other materials we will need are our computers and mounting materials. We have discussed the project with our principal, and she has agreed to cover the cost of mounting the projectors.

Professional Development

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

Professional development is critical to the success of our grant project, "First Grade Dream Team Goes Interactive." Our grade level partners will be collaborating to create engaging lessons that captivate students and expand their learning. Our First Grade Team will coordinate our teaching of concepts in all academic areas. We will have the opportunity to create and teach Mimio lessons. Our Professional Learning

Community time (PLC) will serve as an opportunity to discuss strengths and weaknesses of our lessons. We will also be working closely with Traci Piltz and Mandy Huck (TILT members and interactive whiteboard connoisseurs) to help us integrate it into our classrooms without missing a beat. As Beartooth slowly goes interactive by buying a few Mimios each year, The Dream Team plans on helping educate other Beartooth teammates as they obtain their Mimios. We will be demonstrating the strength of the Mimio as a united team in our school and throughout our district.

Project Timeline

When will you implement your project?

We will implement our grant project immediately upon receiving the Mimio projectors. Depending upon the timeline of the ordering process and the logistics of the projector placements within our classrooms, we may be able to utilize the month of May for exploration and beginning implementation with this exciting new technology. The support of our staff members, Mandy Huck and Traci Piltz, who are also TILT members, will be helpful as we begin our preliminary journey into the Mimio.

School year 2014-2015 will mark a new era in first grade at Beartooth Elementary. Our first grade teachers, if awarded an Education Foundation grant, will instruct students with the support of the Mimio projector beginning in August and concluding at year's end in May of 2015. Our 21st century learners will gain important knowledge from their first grade teachers who are incorporating cutting edge classroom technology by way of the Mimio projector.

Plan for Evaluation

How will you evaluate student outcomes for your project?

Evaluation for this project will be through formal and informal assessments that align with the Common Core standards. We believe that using this technology in our classrooms will raise not only test scores in all academic areas, but will also improve student behavior. Some of the formal assessments include the DRA, AIMS, Lead21 Benchmark assessments, and assessments found online at Billings Public Schools website. The informal assessments are made up of class observations. We will see an improvement in classroom behavior based off of participation, less distractions because student focus will be on the board, and lastly, we will have the front of our classroom back for close proximity strategies.

This project will demonstrate how well we work together as a PLC team. We are very excited about taking a huge step into turning Beartooth into a 21st century school!

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.

Funds required to complete this project are \$3,500 to purchase two Mimio Interactive Projectors with dual pens for our first grade classrooms. Additional funding for lessons purchased online, from sources like Teachers Pay Teachers, will come from us personally, through Beartooth's Winter Carnival, or PTA mini grants.

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.

IMG_3743.JPG

Attachment 2

IMG_3746.JPG

Attachment 3

File Attachment Summary

Applicant File Uploads

- IMG_3743.JPG
- IMG_3746.JPG



