

iLluminare

Classroom Grant

Highland Elementary

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Application Form

Report Fields

Project Name*

Name of project

iLluminare

Amount Requested

Amount requested on application.

\$1,000.00

Grade Level

Please select grade level below.

Primary (K-3)

Primary Subject Area

Please select the primary subject area of your grant.

Mathematics

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.

60

Project Cost

What is the total cost of your project?

1001.85

Statement of Need

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

30 years ago I can clearly remember being awed and excited by the introduction of calculators and chunky green-screened Apple II computers into our first grade classroom at Ponderosa Elementary. There was simply nothing more exhilarating than sitting down with friends to calculate answers using the coveted class calculators or solving math problems to move a character to different rooms in a pharaoh's tomb in our

once a week visits to the computer lab. These opportunities made learning fun and therefore, meaningful to our generation. They gave us a feeling that school was a place we could experience the world of the future.

I am reminded of these times whenever my students are given the occasion to interact with iPad technology in a significant way. iPads have the power to illuminate content in a manner never before accessible to students and teachers. Whether it is using the iPad to record their own classroom behavior, research questions for inquiry projects, write and record stories or connect with other students and parents outside our classroom, students simply cannot get enough of these exceptionally versatile devices. One of the most powerful developments I have witnessed over the past few years is the use of the iPad in conjunction with QR codes. Simply stated, QR codes allow students to take ownership of their learning in an exciting way across all content areas. Students absolutely delight in their ability to solve peer recorded mathematical story problems or listen to student-created non-fiction texts to learn new content. High tech "scavenger hunts" involving single and double digit math problem solving have replaced the flash card activities of past. Students literally beg for an opportunity to utilize these devices and I will do everything I can to provide them with the right tools for the job.

As a 21st century educator, it is my responsibility to prepare students to be successful members of a digital society. Students need to be given opportunities to move beyond merely hearing and remembering information; they must think critically, evaluate information, communicate and create. iPads are the perfect tool to engage students in meaningful inquiry projects that allow them to be creative, delve deeper into the content and share what they are learning in exciting ways.

To summarize, our first graders are in need of iPads to maximize their academic learning opportunities and to be innovative participants in the ever-changing world of technology in which we live. With every new iPad our classroom receives, the level of student engagement will be raised exponentially, therefore garnering greater results in student achievement.

Primary Goal

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

The primary goal of this grant is to enhance student engagement in math and to provide the interactive learning experiences emphasized in the Common Core State Standards.

QR codes with Create A Graph – students create their own graphs and students can then scan them to answer questions regarding the data. (MT CCS 1.MD.4)

QR codes with You Tube – students create and record their own story problems and tutorial videos for: understanding subtraction as an unknown-addend problem, finding the unknown whole number in an equation, and solving single and double digit problems involving addition and subtraction. Students then watch the videos to solve the problems. (MT CCS 1.OA.4, 1.OA.6, 1.OA.8)

QR codes with Self Checking Task Cards – students solve problems involving place value, time, money amounts and geometric shapes. Students are then able to scan the corresponding QR code and self check their responses. (MT CCS 1.NBT.2, 1.MD.3, 1.G.1-3; BPS ABC Objective 1.BPS.1)

Project Description

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

The enthusiasm I feel for this iLluminate project is unmatched. Our school as a whole has caught iPad fever and our technology team is committed to ensuring that all classrooms have at least one iPad (and hopefully 3-4) within the next two years. That said, my current iPads (2) along with this grant-funded set (3), will be used as an iPad pilot project in our school, seeking out the best apps and activities available to enhance student learning. As a member of our technology committee, I feel it is important that my classroom team serve as an experienced iPad guide to the larger school community. My class iPad set will service up to 60+ students within the context of our inter-grade level walk-to-math groupings.

My plan is to use QR codes and our iPad set as a tool to differentiate my math instruction on a daily basis. These devices will enhance students' ability to master the Montana Common Core Standards and therefore,

ensure that students are prepared with the knowledge and tools to be successful in the 21st century. Within this plan, students will be using a combination of the above stated apps, web sites, QR codes and iPads to complete objectives that match the Common Core Standards of that specific quarter.

The following will be implemented over the course of a regular school year:

- First Quarter: Students will be recording and viewing class graphing data for mathematical and team-building purposes, creating and viewing unknown-addend story problems, as well as completing task cards for adding and subtracting within 20. Students will watch teacher created mathematics tutorials as a precursor to making their own.
- Second Quarter: Students will continue to work on quarter 1 objectives and will be recording and viewing math story problems with an emphasis on cultural contexts, including Montana American Indians. Students will begin making their own tutorial videos with a focus on solving unknown whole number problems.
- Third Quarter: Students will continue working on quarter 1&2 objectives and will complete and even create their own task cards regarding place value and comparing the values of two digit numbers.
- Fourth Quarter: Students will continue working on content of previous quarters and complete and create task cards for telling time, counting amounts of coins, and identifying and describing specific geometric figures.

NOTE: Although the parameters of this grant have narrowed my focus to math, I have ample resources and a comprehensive plan to utilize these iPads across all first grade content areas.

Professional Development

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

The iLuminate grant project will be a collaborative effort between all K-3 Highland teachers. Like myself, these team members have been utilizing iPad technology throughout the year and have consistently shared the details of the best practices taking place in their classrooms. Three of these teachers are current and past members of the TILT program and regularly share their ideas and findings with the rest of the staff. Recent collaboration with TILT team members has allowed me to improve my formative assessment practices through the integration of a digital polling system. The advantage of in-house professional development is that great ideas and practices are shared and implemented directly into the classroom on a continual basis.

Project Timeline

When will you implement your project?

The iLuminate grant project has already begun! The addition of 3 additional devices will allow for the inclusion of all 60+ students on a regular basis. I will be seeking additional funds through a PTSA grant to buy apps and protective cases. I am developing a strategic plan to meet the needs of all students through the use of a creative rotational schedule. For this school year, the project will continue with the fourth quarter objectives as a focus. As of the 2014-2015 school year, the project will begin in September. Each subsequent quarter the specific mathematics objectives will be introduced and explored.

Plan for Evaluation

How will you evaluate student outcomes for your project?

Evaluation for this project will be facilitated through the formal and informal assessments aligned with the Montana Common Core Standards in mathematics. Highland first grade PLC team members have devised grade level common assessments based on these standards. One application that helps our team to streamline this assessment is the web based assessment tool MasteryConnect. MasteryConnect allows for collaboration with teachers in our school, our district, and teachers across the country. This tool allows our team to share and download formative and summative assessments aligned with the National Common Core

State Standards. The Three Ring application will also be utilized to save and share digital student work samples (video and audio) with parents and administrators.

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.

3 Apple iPad minis:	897.00
3 Speck SmartShell cases	104.85
Total:	\$ 1001.85

**I am requesting a total of \$1000.00 and will make up the excess \$1.85 personally.

Additional funding will be sought through PTSA Mini-Grants offered by the Highland PTA. These funds, if granted, will be used to purchase additional learning and assessment applications and Smart Cover screen protectors for the iPads.

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