

iPads for Innovation

Classroom Grant

McKinley Elementary

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Application Form

Report Fields

Project Name*

Name of project

iPads for Innovation

Amount Requested

Amount requested on application.

\$989.97

Grade Level

Please select grade level below.

Primary (K-3)

Primary Subject Area

Please select the primary subject area of your grant.

Language Arts

School

Please select your school from the list below

McKinley 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?

989.97

Statement of Need

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

McKinley Elementary is an extremely diverse school. The diversity is both economic and academic. A vast majority of McKinley students come from the North Park area in Billings. According to a recent article in the Billings Gazette 94.5% are living below poverty. This school year at McKinley, 70% of students receive free or reduced lunch and 12% are considered homeless. Within my own classroom, I have 6 students who

currently have or have had in this school year an incarcerated parent. Therefore, due to lack of resources or parental support many students do not have access of current technology and/or academic encouragement at home. In the classroom, I am seeing an enormous gap in ability levels in reading and math. I have students who started third grade at a beginning reading level (equivalent to kindergarten) and some who read at a level equivalent to eighth grade. In mathematics, I have students ranging from lacking basic number sense and math facts to students who are able to accurately complete fourth grade concepts. My role as a classroom teacher being able to differentiate to teach new concepts, reinforce previous concepts and enrich the learning to the varying ability levels is incredibly difficult.

The iPad mini provides an avenue for students to engage in the global learning community while having opportunities to create technologically relevant projects. Students are able to access an endless wealth of resources (books, periodicals, online journals, online articles) as well as apps that can provide reinforcement, enrichment, and creation to engage in the highest level of learning according to Bloom's Taxonomy.

This project would allow students to engage with different resources (available through different apps) and reading materials (books, periodicals, online journals, etc.) at their individual levels and to meet their individual needs. They will have a plethora of different creation tools to produce projects to display their learning of concepts taught (i.e. digital books, blog posts, videos, interactive pictures, sound recordings, etc.) This will be done through the use of the iPad at a reading station, a math station, during inquiry projects, and basic whole group instruction.

Primary Goal

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

Using the iPad mini would allow for personalized differentiation (including remediation and enrichment of concepts, and creation of projects) a goal of School District 2. We see each learner as an individual with unique interests and ability levels across curriculum areas. With the iPad Mini, students will have access to resources needed to collect, synthesize, and present information for inquiry projects. It will allow students to read and apply reading strategies to different genres of text. Also, it will be used to practice spelling, reading fluency, math facts, math concepts, and to investigate science topics using different apps available. All of these areas (completing a inquiry project, reading from a variety of genres, using different reading comprehension strategies, targeting reading fluency, applying spelling strategies to correctly spell words, mastering math facts and concepts) align with the Common Core State Standards that Billings School District 2 is adopting.

Project Description

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

The iPad Mini will be used primarily as a resource during reading stations, math stations, and for inquiry projects. They will be used to provide instruction, reinforce concepts previously taught, and as a tool to for student to research and create inquiry projects. Students will use the iPad during daily reading stations, daily math stations, and weekly inquiry projects. The reading and math stations consist of small group instruction with me, individual or partner practice on a skill taught during our whole group lesson, independent work time, and time on the computer (ReadAbout (a reading program that is acceptable for students with a reading level that is at third grade or above), typing practice, Math IXL, Xtra Math, and/or Khan Academy) The iPad Mini would be used in place of all of these stations depending on the instructional goal for the day and the students' needs. During the inquiry projects, students will use the iPad Mini to collect information, synthesize information, and create a way to present their information. The iPad Mini would allow for students to create digital and interactive projects to show off their learning.

Professional Development

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

I am a member of TILT, teachers integrating and learning technology. As part of my professional development in this group, I have been a part of several conversations with Desiree Caskey and other teachers in the district about how to successfully integrate a resource like the iPad Mini into the classroom. I will continue to have the support of Desiree Caskey and teachers around the district that are currently using an iPad Mini in the classroom setting. I am also a member of McKinley's technology committee and have the support of two other TILT members and technology committee members (Mark Kane and Kari McKay).

Project Timeline

When will you implement your project?

I will implement this project as soon as the materials arrive. I will use the resources daily throughout the school year. I also plan to share this idea and resources with the other teachers in my building (primarily third grade).

Plan for Evaluation

How will you evaluate student outcomes for your project?

I plan to evaluate student outcomes by informal and formal assessments. I currently give pre-assessments for many concepts that I will be teaching. After teaching the concept, I give a post-assessment to measure the growth in learning. I will continue to do this. I would also evaluate students' performance informally by taking anecdotal notes as I listen, observe, and read their work. I will also use rubrics to assess students' inquiry projects.

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.

If the Education Foundation is able to supply the funds for the iPad Mini, kid-friendly cases, and initial iTunes gift cards to purchase start-up books and apps, I would personally fund any other minor costs necessary. I would also seek donations for continued purchase apps through other resources (i.e. PTA, parent donations through the McKinley Wish List, other smaller grant opportunities).

- 3 iPad Mini 16GB= \$900 (\$300 each)
- 3 i-Blason Armor Box Series 2-layer Kids Friendly Case = \$59.97 (\$19.99 each)
- 3 iTunes intitial gift cards = \$30 (\$10 each)

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