

# Listen up!

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## *Classroom Grant*

### ***Rebecca King***

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# Application Form

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## Report Fields

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### Project Name\*

Name of project

Listen up!

### 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.

Other

### School

Please select your school from the list below

Broadwater Elementary

### Number of Students Served

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

20

### Project Cost

What is the total cost of your project?

1190.00

### Statement of Need

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

Despite the many changes in classroom technologies and practices, education is still based on speaking and listening. When students can hear lesson content clearly, they are more successful at learning. By providing funds through this grant, I would be able to purchase a voice amplifier for use in the classroom.

The voice amplifier makes the teacher's voice clearer. The amplifier system also diminishes background noises in the environment; noises like air vents and heating systems, neighboring classrooms, hallway noises, and technology systems (e.g. cooling fans, mouse and keyboard clicking, music and voices from multimedia devices). The device intensifies the teacher's voice and sends it directly to the listeners' ear. This gives the students better access to what the teacher is saying.

I contacted Ann Brucker, one of the Technology Integration Specialists for Billings Public Schools regarding the voice amplifiers. Ann is a former classroom teacher who used the amplifier system. Ann said, "Another thing I noticed about having this system was that it provided the sense of proximity, even when I wasn't nearby. This was really useful for those wiggly kids near the back when my instruction required me to be at the front; when they thought it sounded like I was standing right behind them, their behavior improved!"

All students would benefit from the use of a voice amplifier in the classroom. Many students are auditory learners that learn best when the material is orally delivered to them. This voice amplifier will help my students meet every content standard; the majority of what happens in a primary classroom revolves around speaking and listening. There is no subject barrier involved with funding this grant. My students and I would use the voice amplifier each day. It is a valuable piece of equipment for every classroom!

## Primary Goal

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

The main reason I want the voice amplifier for my classroom is to help my students learn! The article "Classroom Amplification to Enhance Student Performance" (DiSarno, N., Schowalter, M., & Grassa, P., 2002), highlights that fact that improving the educational environment is one way to improve learning behaviors of all students. Classrooms tend to be noisy; which leads to distractions for all students. Minimizing the distractions and allowing the teacher's voice to be broadcast clearer will help to create a better environment for learning.

This grant would fund a tool that would benefit each student that enters my classroom. The voice amplifier will help me to support all of the School District 2 goals and curriculum.

## Project Description

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

This grant would fund a device to be used in my classroom. Everything I would need would arrive in one box and be ready to use with a few basic installation and set-up items. A wireless speaker, a microphone and wall charger and charging cable are all that I would need to help my students accomplish their educational goals! A visual of what the amplifier system looks like is included with attachments.

We would be able to use the amplifier for our entire school day first bell to dismissal! I would be able to use it for everything from lunch count and attendance to read aloud and math lessons. My students would be able to use the microphone for sharing during writer's workshop, explaining the answers in our math journals and everything in between! There are no major activities and materials involved in the project, simply because we can use the amplifier ALL of the time!

## Professional Development

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

My project includes no professional development at this time. If the time comes when other members of my school's staff receive an amplifier, I would be delighted to share what I know.

## Project Timeline

When will you implement your project?

The amplifier in this grant will be purchased as soon as funds are received. The device itself would be ordered through the Technology Department within School District 2. I would begin to use it as soon as it arrives.

## Plan for Evaluation

How will you evaluate student outcomes for your project?

Evaluation of this amplifier would be a tricky. How can you measure if a student's listening? A better way to calculate the worth of this device may be to measure the learning behaviors. A quick checklist would provide a snapshot of student's skills. An example of a listening and learning checklist is found in attachment 2. This checklist could be done at the beginning of the school year and again towards the end of the academic year to see if any differences are noticed.

## 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.

The price listed for the voice amplifier is \$1,190.00, based on our school district pricing for last school year. My school's Parent Teacher Association has already agreed to fund any cost above what is awarded through this grant.

## 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.

Voice Amplifier.png

## Attachment 2

Evaluation Checklist.png

## Attachment 3

## File Attachment Summary

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### ***Applicant File Uploads***

- Voice Amplifier.png
- Evaluation Checklist.png

# System Components

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Redcat Access with Power Supply

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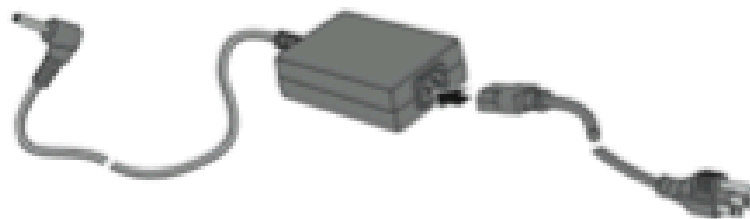
Flexmike Classroom Microphone

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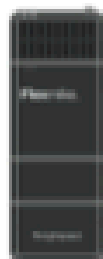
Wall Charger & Charging Cable



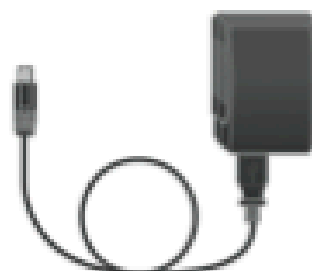
Redcat Access Receiver/  
Amplifier and Power  
Supply



Flexmike  
Classroom  
Microphone



Wall Charger &  
Charging Cable



## Appendix A. Listening and Learning Observation

### LISTENING BEHAVIORS

*DIRECTIONS:* Rate the student's listening behaviors on the five-point scale.  
(1 = frequently, 3 = sometimes, 5 = seldom)

Difficulty paying attention to oral instruction	1	2	3	4	5
Difficulty following oral directions	1	2	3	4	5
Needs directions or information repeated	1	2	3	4	5
Demonstrates off-task behaviors	1	2	3	4	5
Exhibits slow or delayed responses	1	2	3	4	5
Learns poorly through auditory channel	1	2	3	4	5
Seeks assistance from teacher or peers	1	2	3	4	5
Has a short attention span	1	2	3	4	5
Is easily distracted by background noise	1	2	3	4	5

### ACADEMIC BEHAVIORS

*DIRECTIONS:* Rate the student's listening behaviors on the five-point scale.  
(1 = frequently, 3 = sometimes, 5 = seldom)

Difficulty completing tasks	1	2	3	4	5
Difficulty participating appropriately in class (e.g., does not raise hand or take turns, shouts out, etc.)	1	2	3	4	5
Slow starter	1	2	3	4	5

### ACADEMIC SKILLS

*DIRECTIONS:* Rate the student's listening behaviors on the five-point scale.  
(1 = frequently, 3 = sometimes, 5 = seldom)

Math or number concepts	1	2	3	4	5
Language Arts (reading)	1	2	3	4	5
Vocabulary and word usage skills	1	2	3	4	5

Score: LB \_\_\_\_/45 AB \_\_\_\_/15 AS \_\_\_\_/15 LLO Total Score: \_\_\_\_/75