

Budget

Albert Einstein Academy for Letters, Arts and Sciences-Ohio (013994) - Cuyahoga County - 2014 - Straight A Fund - Rev 0 - Straight A Fund - Application Number (547)

U.S.A.S. Fund #:  
 Plus/Minus Sheet (opens new window)

Purpose Code	Object Code	Salaries 100	Retirement Fringe Benefits 200	Purchased Services 400	Supplies 500	Capital Outlay 600	Other 800	Total
Instruction		42,500.00	16,789.66	12,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	71,289.66
Support Services		21,250.00	8,394.83	46,650.00	70,248.00	0.00	3,000.00	149,542.83
Governance/Admin		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10,000.00	10,000.00
Prof Development		0.00	0.00	10,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10,000.00
Family/Community		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10,000.00	10,000.00
Safety		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Facilities		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Transportation		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Total</b>		63,750.00	25,184.49	68,650.00	70,248.00	0.00	23,000.00	250,832.49
<b>Adjusted Allocation</b>								0.00
<b>Remaining</b>								-250,832.49

Application

Albert Einstein Academy for Letters, Arts and Sciences-Ohio (013994) - Cuyahoga County - 2014 - Straight A Fund - Rev 0 - Straight A Fund - Application Number (547)

Applicants shall respond to the prompts or questions in the areas listed below in a narrative form.

A) APPLICANT INFORMATION - General Information, Experience and Capacity

1. Project Title:Einstein's Vision: A Digital Integration Model to Boost Student Achievement

2.Executive summary: Provide an executive summary of your project proposal and which goal(s) in question 9 you seek to achieve. Please limit your responses to no more than three sentences.

Albert Einstein Academy of Westlake respectfully submits this proposal requesting \$250,840 from the Straight A Fund to support Einstein's Vision; a twenty-first century educational model designed to improve student achievement through a local- and global- centric approach to learning. The Digital Age has inspired schools worldwide to integrate technology across the curriculum; to motivate learning by meeting learners on the playing field. Our students are equipped with the latest technologic innovations; our teachers are falling behind. Einstein's Vision will serve as an integration model that infuses technology into the day-to-day curriculum in creative, academic, rigorous, engaging, and relevant ways. Einstein's Vision seeks to create borderless classrooms; to transform classrooms into learning laboratories for students to explore content and create knowledge; to extend learning beyond the school day through inquiry-based assignments that encourage creativity and critical thinking; to provide students with practical and meaningful learning experiences that are embedded in the social and cultural fabrics of their everyday lives. To accomplish this, Einstein's Vision sets forth the following goals: increase student achievement through a technology-driven curriculum; provide equitable access to technological resources; empower teachers to use technological tools and techniques to enhance their curricular framework and pedagogical design; and build students' twenty-first century college and career readiness skills. AEA identifies a need to redirect our education system into a digital integration model. The one-size-fits-all pedagogical practices that define our traditional classrooms have given way to new approaches in curriculum and instruction. Integrating digital technology across the curriculum with proper facilitation, policy, and support will improve pedagogical relevance and increase student achievement through a rigorous and robust curricular platform. Through this initiative, AEA will partner with Apex Learning to offer a teacher-lead digital curriculum that provides each student with access to a personalized student-centric learning experience. To ensure all students are equipped with the technological resources needed to achieve in academics, AEA will also partner with Google to implement a one-to-one (1:1) education plan that provides each student with access to a computer. The digital curriculum and 1:1 education plan will naturally facilitate student-directed learning, allowing for learning experiences to be meaningful, practical, rigorous, and relevant. Einstein's Vision will instill a "technical" foundation that will equip students with the knowledge and skills necessary for college and career readiness in the twenty-first century. The digital integration model will encourage independent learning across a collaborative platform, and enhance student competencies that exceed the knowledge and skills measured through achievement tests. These competencies include problem solving, critical thinking, creativity, collaboration, communication, and more. "Many employers find these skills lacking among today's college graduates. In addition, a number of organizations... see literacy in digital media as essential for succeeding a global [interconnected] society." (nmefoundation.org)

120 3. Total Students Impacted:

4. Lead applicant primary contact: - Provide the following information:

First Name, last Name of contact for lead applicant: Bruce, Thomas
Organizational name of lead applicant: Albert Einstein Academy of Westlake
Unique Identifier (IRN/Fed Tax ID):
Address of lead applicant: 3600 Crocker Rd. Westlake, OH 44145
Phone Number of lead applicant: 440-471-4982
Email Address of lead applicant: bruce.thomas@ealas.org

5. Secondary applicant contact: - Provide the following information, if applicable:

First Name, last Name of contact for secondary applicant: Danielle, Kimble
Organizational name of secondary applicant: Albert Einstein Academy of Westlake
Unique Identifier (IRN/Fed Tax ID):
Address of secondary applicant: 3600 Crocker Rd. Westlake, OH 44145
Phone number of secondary applicant: 440-471-4982
Email address of secondary applicant: danielle.kimble@ealas.org

6. List all other participating entities by name: Provide the following information for each additional participating entity, if applicable: Mention First Name, Last Name, Organizational Name, Unique Identifier (IRN/Fed Tax ID), Address, Phone Number, Email Address of Contact for All Secondary Applicants in the box below.

N/A

7. Partnership and consortia agreements and letters of support: - (Click on the link below to upload necessary documents).

\* Letters of support are for districts in academic or fiscal distress only. If school or district is in academic or fiscal distress and has a commission assigned, please include a resolution from the commission in support of the project.
\* If a partnership or consortium will be established, please include the signed Straight A Description of Nature of Partnership or Description of Nature of Consortium Agreement.

UploadGrantApplicationAttachment.aspx

8. Please provide a brief description of the team or individuals responsible for the implementation of this project including relevant experience in other innovative projects. You should also include descriptions and experiences of partnering entities.

Individuals responsible for implementation of Einstein Vision include the following: Dr. Bruce Thomas, Superintendent of Schools: Dr. Bruce Thomas has been an educator and administrator for over 30 years. He holds both a Masters and Doctoral degree in education. Over the span of 30 years in education he has served as a teacher, school counselor, building principal, and as a school superintendent. Dr. Thomas has lectured across the country in the areas of school leadership, academic improvement and student success. He has published numerous articles focusing on changing the current paradigm in education to focus more closely on meeting the needs of both high and low achieving students. Dr. Thomas is currently on staff at the University of Akron where he has been teaching both undergraduate and graduate courses in the college of education. He has experience managing large grant funds (Title I, Race to the Top, etc.) His background in education will help support the implementation of Einstein's Vision. Ms. Kristen Elliott-Thomas, Coordinator of Student Services: Kristen Elliott-Thomas has been an educator for over sixteen years. She has served as a teacher and school counselor in various Ohio public schools during this time. Some of her professional goals have been to establish appropriate and accessible mental health and special education services for all students, initiate school-wide programs to foster individualized learning, and to create an environment of diversity, acceptance and community within the school. She has also worked as a private therapist assisting adolescent students and their families who are struggling with the numerous issues that many families are facing today. Ms. Elliott-Thomas's experience in education will assist with the implementation of Einstein's Vision. Other individuals responsible for implementation of the project include seven AEA teachers; all of which are highly qualified and certified in their subject area with a wealth of experience and a significant interest in integrating technology into their daily classroom activities. AEA will also hire a Curriculum and Instruction consultant, and a Technology Integration consultant, as well as a full-time Technology Integration Specialist and a part-time Project Manager.

B) PROJECT DESCRIPTION - Overall description of project and alignment with Outcomes

9. Which of the stated Straight A Fund goals does the proposal aim to achieve? - (Check all that apply)

- Student achievement
Spending reductions in the five-year fiscal forecast
Utilization of a greater share of resources in the classroom

10. Which of the following best describes the proposed project? - (Select one:)

- New - never before implemented
Existing and researched-based - never implemented in your district or community school but proven successful in other educational environments
Mixed Concept - incorporates new and existing elements
Enhancing/Scale Up - elevating or expanding an effective program that is already implemented in your district, school, or consortia partnership

11. Describe the innovative project.

Einstein's Vision will integrate a digital learning model across the curriculum, providing a twenty-first century educational design that is rich in technology integration. Einstein's Vision will include two components: a teacher-lead digital curriculum and a 1:1 education plan. Both components will connect seamlessly to provide enriching and educational, technology-based learning experiences designed to boost student achievement. Einstein's Vision will partner with Apex Learning to offer a teacher-lead digital curriculum that provides each student with access to a personalized, student-centric learning experience. The digital curriculum provides teachers with the curricular framework and flexibility to meet the individual learning needs of each child. Integrating this system into classroom instruction allows teachers to track progress in real-time and use data to assess, remediate, and/or accelerate students. Einstein's Vision will also partner with Google through a one-to-one (1:1) education plan that will provide each student with a laptop; Google Chromebook (GCB) equipped with Google Apps for Education. GCB's are optimized for the web's vast educational resources. They will replace hard-copy textbooks and published texts, notebooks, binders, folders, and more. All documents, resources, and class materials will be synced to the cloud; instantly available and accessible to students and parents at all times. GCBs allow for more methodological and practical, cross-cultural and cross-disciplinary, hands-on and collaborative learning experiences. For instance, in Science, GCBs enable students to act as professional researchers; to learn by experience. GCBs in hand, students can systematically examine a plot of wetlands, logging fish, plant life, and other species into an online spreadsheet using Google Docs. Then, in collaboration, students can create a website using Google Sites to compare their data and observation each year. This is one of the many ways GCBs and Google Apps can be used within AEA's learning laboratories. While the integration of technology across the curriculum is exciting, AEA understands that technology cannot stand alone. Einstein's Vision will require all faculty and staff hands on deck to instill best practices and utilize technological tools and techniques that reshape and enhance pedagogical practices. With assistance from Apex Learning and Google, AEA will hire a technology specialist and support for professional development. AEA will also design a policy handbook that outlines the policies, procedures, and payment plans of the digital integration model. The twenty-first century generation is wired to communicate and collaborate on local, national, and international levels through interconnectivity. Electronic pathways and technologic innovations have made globalization more possible and visible. The digital integration model, incorporating a digital curriculum and 1:1 education plan, will naturally provide students with multiple opportunities to develop twenty-first century skills such as problem solving, critical thinking, creativity, innovation, communication, collaboration, and more.

12. Describe how it will meet the goal(s) selected above. - If school/district receives school improvement funds/support, include a brief explanation of how this project will advance the improvement plan.

As stated above, Einstein's Vision initiative goal seeks to: increase student academic achievement through a technology-driven curriculum; provide equitable access to technological resources; empower teachers to utilize technological tools and techniques to enhance curricular frameworks and pedagogical design; and build students' twenty-first century college and career readiness skills. Goal 1: Increase student academic achievement through a technology-driven curriculum. Participants will demonstrate improved grades, consistent completion of assignments, and participation in English, Math, and Science. Studies indicate that student engagement is a key factor to academic achievement, and technology-based instruction engages and excites students through pedagogical relevance. The integration of technology across the curriculum, along with access to technological devices, will engage students and boost student achievement. Goal 2: Provide equitable access to technological resources. To ensure all students are equipped with the resources and skills necessary to succeed in academia, Einstein's Vision will implement a one-to-one (1:1) education plan that provides each child with access to a laptop. AEA will partner with Google to adopt Google Chromebooks (GCB) and Google Apps for each student. Goal 3: Empower teachers to utilize technological tools and techniques to enhance curricular frameworks and pedagogical design. AEA faculty and staff will receive ongoing professional development for the implementation of a school-wide digital curriculum and 1:1 education plan. Goal 4: Build students' twenty-first century college and career readiness skills. Einstein's Vision will leverage the many opportunities technology creates to prepare students for their twenty-first century college and career endeavors. "A comprehensive strategy to teach both knowledge and applied skills- including the "4 Cs" of critical thinking and problem solving, communication and collaboration, and creativity and innovation skills- is one that employers, educators and the public are ready to support." (p21)

**C) SUSTAINABILITY - Planning for ongoing funding of the project, cost breakdown**

13. Financial Documentation - All applicants must enter or upload the following supporting information. Responses should refer to specific information in the financial documents when applicable:

a. Enter a project budget

b. Upload the Straight A Financial Impact Template forecasting the expected changes to the five-year forecast resulting from implementation of this project. If applying as a consortia or partnership, please include the five-year forecasts of each school district, community school or STEM school member for review.

c. If subsection (b) is not applicable, please explain why, in addition to how the project will demonstrate sustainability and impact.

Project budget: \$250,840 With a primary focus on boosting student achievement, Einstein's Vision expects to make minor changes to the five-year forecast. AEA was founded on the principle that learning needs to be relevant; children need to be engaged and excited to learn. Studies show that the traditional education model that includes outdated textbooks is no longer engaging students. Students of the Digital Age are prompted to use technology as a means to seek knowledge and build skills. AEA will optimize on this mode of learning through the integration of a digital learning model. Einstein's Vision will initiate the hire of a full-time Technology Integration Specialist at the salary rate of \$43,500 plus benefits. This position will sustain in the subsequent years through an anticipated increase in student enrollment. Curriculum resources will remain a line item in the five-year plan as AEA continues to purchase a digital curriculum license for each student. The 1:1 education plan will use start-up funds from the Straight A Fund, but will be replenished through family rent-to-own payment plans. This model simply reduces hard-copy textbooks and other print material, and is estimated to save approximately \$15,000 per year.

14. What is the total cost for implementing the innovative project?

250,840.00 \* Total project cost

\* Provide a brief narrative explanation of the overall budget. The narrative should include the source and amount of other funds that may be used to support this concept (e.g., Title I funding, RttT money, local funding, foundation support, etc.), and provide details on the cost of items included in the budget (i.e. staff counts and salary/benefits, equipment to be purchased and cost, etc).

100: Salaries Einstein's Vision will hire a part-time Project Manager and full-time Technology Integration Specialist. The Project Manager will be responsible for project planning, coordination, and implementation, data analysis, annual/final reports, community engagement activities, and fulfilling all duties/responsibilities required through Straight A Fund. The total requested for Project Manager is \$21,250. The Technology Integration Specialist will be responsible for training and supporting AEA teachers in the use of technology to supplement instruction, facilitating technology integration trainings, and assisting with the development, implementation, evaluation and refinement of Einstein's Vision. The total requested for Technology Integration Specialist is \$42,500. The total requested for Salaries is \$63,750. 200: Retirement and Fringe Benefits Fringe benefits include: Retirement, Medical Insurance, Medicare, Workers Compensation, and NCOESC Employee Fees. The total requested for Project Manager is \$8,394.83. The total requested for Technology Integration Specialist is \$16,789.66. Total requested for Fringe Benefits is \$25,184.49. 400: Purchased Services. Professional Development- AEA faculty and staff will receive ongoing professional development opportunities. Topics include: technology integration, twenty-first century pedagogy, learning in the digital age, and Google in the classroom. The total requested for professional development is \$10,000. Support Services- AEA will partner with Apex Learning to purchase digital curriculum licenses and support materials for students and teachers. Apex Learning will also require a training for AEA faculty and staff. 120 student licenses @ \$350/license = \$42,000. 7 teacher licenses @ \$350/license = \$2,450. Training fee @ \$2,200. Total requested for support services is \$46,650. Curriculum Development- AEA faculty and staff will meet regularly with a consultant for Curriculum and Instruction and Educational Technology Integration to successfully implement technology-based, project-oriented classroom activities. 2 consultants @ \$100/hour x 4 hours/day x 10 days = \$8,000. 11 faculty @ \$35/hour x 1 hour/day x 10 days = \$3,850. Curricular materials / resources: \$150. The total requested for Curriculum Development is \$12,000. 500: Supplies Google Chromebooks- Einstein's Vision will implement a 1:1 education plan that provides each student and faculty/staff with a personal laptop (Google Chromebook) equipped with Google Apps and sharing/collaboration capabilities. 120 Student Chromebooks @ \$400/chromebook = \$48,000. 11 Faculty/Staff Chromebooks @ \$400/chromebook = \$4,400. The total requested for Google Chromebooks is \$52,400. Smartboard- Smartboards will be installed in each classroom. 7 Smartboards (with warranty and shipping and handling) @ \$2,264/board = \$15,848. Google iCloud Printer- Einstein's Vision will need printers that are compatible with Google iCloud. The printer selected is a Dell 3765dnf Color Laser Multifunction Printer. 2 printers @ \$929.99/printer + shipping/handling = \$2,000.800: Other Print Supplies- Print supplies such as cartridges, toners, paper, etc. for student and teacher documents, newsletters, assessments, etc. The total requested for Print Supplies is \$3,000. Documentation/Evaluation- Einstein's Vision will be documented through formative assessments, student surveys, student interviews, OAA / OGT results, improved participation, attendance, and more to measure program effectiveness. The total requested for Documentation/Evaluation is \$10,000. Community Engagement- Einstein's Vision will have a series of technology-based events that will be focused around digital art (digital storytelling, film/photography, biomedical art, digital game design, industrial/architectural design, etc.). Einstein's Vision will also coordinate parent/community volunteers to assist with after-school/out-of-school activities. The total request

15. What new/recurring costs of your innovative project will continue once the grant has expired? If there are no new/recurring costs, please explain why.

101,289.66 \* Specific amount of new/recurring cost (annual cost after project is implemented)

\* Narrative explanation/rationale: Provide details on the cost of items included in the budget (i.e. staff counts and salary/benefits, equipment to be purchased and cost, etc.). If there are no new/recurring costs, please explain why.

Upon funding expiration, the new/recurring costs of the innovative project that will become expenses for Albert Einstein Academy include: Technology Integration Specialist salary and fringe benefits and curriculum licenses. The Technology Integration Specialist will continue to serve as a full-time employee for AEA with an annual salary of \$42,500 and a benefits package that includes Retirement, Medical Insurance, Medicare, Workers Compensation, and NCOESC Employee Fees of \$16,789.66. With an expected 5% increase in student enrollment for FY15, AEA has prioritized this position. The Technology Integration Specialist will be responsible for the following: training and supporting AEA teachers in the use of technology to supplement instruction; facilitating technology integration training and professional development opportunities; training teachers in the use of media, equipment, and technology to support technology integration in the curriculum; assist in the development, implementation, evaluation, and refinement of Einstein's Vision; and ensure optimum instructional delivery by using knowledge of current trends, methods, ideas, programs, materials, and equipment for technology integration. Einstein's Vision will continue to offer a teacher-led digital curriculum that provides each child with access to a curriculum license for homework and after-school support. Students can also utilize these lessons for credit-recovery, remediation, and/or gifted education. Teachers will continue to use the curriculum licenses as a framework for their pedagogical design. Rather than allocating funds to curriculum development via textbooks, AEA will allocate a recurring cost of \$350 per license per year times 150 licenses (estimate- students and teacher).

16. Are there expected savings that may result from the implementation of the innovative project?

18,000.00 \* Specific amount of expected savings (annual)

\* Narrative explanation/rationale: Provide details on the anticipated savings (i.e. staff counts and salary/benefits, equipment to be purchased and cost, etc.)

The implementation of Einstein's Vision; digital learning model has short- and long- term budget goals that result in significant savings in the cost of AEA's resources such as textbooks, print materials, paper, and equipment. Over time, cost savings are expected to be substantial by substituting a digital learning model for printed textbooks. AEA has determined that students can best utilize resources via e-books and e-resources where updates happen instantaneously, providing relevant information at the click of a button. Replacing textbooks costs the school thousands of dollars. Textbooks often become outdated from the moment they leave the printers. All homework and class assignments will be performed and presented digitally or turned in via electronic submission. AEA anticipates saving

an estimate of \$3,000 per year in costs related to the purchase of text and print materials. Not only will Einstein's Vision provide financial savings, the initiative will also save "social costs". David Rose, a lecturer at Harvard University's Graduate School of Education, said schools simply "can't afford to rely on traditional textbooks because the social costs are too high... If we continue to prepare kids for their past, that's very expensive. Their future is largely going to be in new media. And textbooks are no longer preparing them for that future." (Rose, ABC News) Other expected cost savings include equipment. Through support from the Straight A Fund, for the 2014-2015 academic year AEA anticipates purchasing nearly 130 Google Chromebooks for students and faculty/staff. Laptops will remain the property of AEA and will be assigned to the student to use while enrolled as an AEA student (similar to the textbook model). Each student will be assigned a bi-annual payment plan to support the costs of their laptop. Upon completion of the payment plan, students will then become the owners of their Google Chromebook. Payment for Google Chromebooks will allow AEA to purchase more Google Chromebooks for incoming students and/or replenish old/used Google Chromebooks. In comparison to the purchase of textbooks, AEA has identified that the digital integration model saves approximately \$15,000 in classroom resources and materials.

17. Provide a brief explanation of how the project is self-sustaining. If there are ongoing costs associated with the project after the term of the grant, this explanation should provide details on the cost reductions that will be made that are at least equal to the amount of new/recurring costs detailed above. If there are no new/recurring costs, explain in detail how this project will sustain itself beyond the life of the grant. Straight A Funds will support professional development, curriculum development, and the purchase of equipment; all of which are self-sustaining in various ways. Technology-based professional development opportunities provide educators with the knowledge and skills needed to effectively integrate technology into their day-to-day teaching practices. It is sustainable and transferable as teachers share their knowledge and skills with other faculty members. Teachers will be encouraged to pursue additional technology-based professional development opportunities and seek free educational resources to stay current with technological innovations and educational trends. Upon implementation, Einstein's Vision will seek consultation on curriculum development; a key source to ensuring technology is carefully integrated across the curriculum, providing optimum learning experiences that directly align with Common Core and state standards. The Curriculum and Instruction consultant will ensure the curriculum is self-sustainable; is designed to be used in subsequent years with modifications and revisions made as necessary by AEA faculty. With proper policies and procedures in place, the 1:1 education model will be self-sustaining over time. Einstein's Vision will use Straight A Funds to initiate the program with the purchase of Google Chromebooks; laptops for each student enrolled at AEA. Each student's family will agree to a payment plan to support the costs of the laptop. Upon completion of payment, the student will own the laptop. Replenished funds will be used for damage/repairs, insurance, printing materials, and to support the purchase of additional Google Chromebooks for incoming classes. The Straight A Fund will also support initial costs of equipment such as smartboards and printers, which will be utilized in subsequent years to continue supporting the integration of technology across the curriculum. AEA has identified the need to raise funds to support the continuation of Einstein's Vision. Requests for new grants to local, regional, and national foundations, as well as corporate sponsors, will be made regularly. AEA will also host a series of fundraisers throughout the year (pancake breakfast, apparel store, school events, community events, etc.) for additional support. Cost reductions will be made in professional development, consultation for curriculum development, and the purchase of new equipment. New/recurring costs will be supported by an anticipated increase in student enrollment which brings additional funding.

#### D) IMPLEMENTATION - Timeline, communication and contingency planning

18. Fill in the appropriate dates and an explanation of the timeline for the successful implementation of this project. In each explanation, be sure to briefly describe the largest barriers that could derail your concept or timeline for implementation and your plan to proactively mitigate such barriers. In addition, the narrative should list the stakeholders that will be engaged during that stage of the project and describe the communication that occurred as the application was developed.

Describe the ongoing communication plan with the stakeholders as the project is implemented. (Stakeholders can include parents, community leaders, foundation support and businesses, as well as educational personnel in the affected entities.)

##### \* Proposal Timeline Dates

Plan (MM/DD/YYYY): 05/01/2014

##### \* Narrative explanation

Beginning May 1st, 2014, Einstein's Vision planning phase will go into effect. Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Bruce Thomas, and Coordinator of Student Services, Ms. Kristen Elliott-Thomas will be responsible for coordinating all planning components, which include the following: order all equipment (Google Chromebooks, Smartboards, Google Cloud Printers, etc.); create a Program Committee for Einstein's Vision; host meetings with Program Committee to create a detailed handbook that introduces the mission and goals of Einstein's Vision and outlines the policies, procedures, and payment plans for the digital learning model; identify a consultant for Curriculum and Instruction and a consultant for Technology Integration; conduct planning meetings with both consultants to discuss the program and identify ways we can meet program goals; post the job description for a full-time Technology Integration Specialist and a part-time Project Manager for Einstein's Vision; conduct interviews throughout the month and hire a Technology Integration Specialist and Project Manager; Create assessment tools to measure student achievement (student surveys, interviews, improved participation, attendance, etc.); develop initiative goals and strategies. Through the planning stage, potential barriers may include a lack of knowledge of specific technology that will be used in Einstein's Vision. This lack of knowledge may disrupt the process of creating a handbook that outlines policies and procedures, developing assessment tools to measure student achievement, and identifying program goals and strategies. To mitigate this barrier, Mr. Thomas and Ms. Elliott-Thomas will request phone conferences with Apex Learning and Google for assistance and information regarding each technology component.

Implement (MM/DD/YYYY): 08/01/2014

##### \* Narrative explanation

In August 2014, AEA will begin implementation by hiring a full-time Technology Integration Specialist and a part-time Project Manager for Einstein's Vision. AEA faculty/staff will attend the following: three technology-based professional development days, two meetings with the Curriculum and Instruction consultant; two meetings with the Educational Technology consultant; one Apex Learning training. AEA will host two mandatory orientation meetings for parents/guardians and students regarding Einstein's Vision (introduce the teacher-lead digital curriculum and 1:1 education plan). Upon reading the policy and procedural handbook and payment plans, and signing the agreement forms, Google Chromebooks will be assigned to each enrolled AEA student and distributed accordingly. September 2014 - May 2015, each month teachers will be required to attend two Einstein's Vision staff meetings. Meetings will provide teachers the opportunity to report out the successes and challenges of the program, and discuss ways to strengthen/improve the program. Meetings will also encourage collaborative efforts among teachers; providing planning time for teachers to create cross-disciplinary lessons and classroom activities. Each month, faculty/staff will also have one meeting with the Curriculum and Instruction consultant and one meeting with the Educational Technology consultant. Classroom observations by the Superintendent, Project Manager, and Technology Integration Specialist will happen regularly. Upon completion of each quarter, the Project Manager will distribute various assessment tools to teachers and also conduct student, parent, and faculty surveys and interviews for documentation and evaluation. As a culmination project for each quarter, AEA students will host technology-based community engagement events that invite students' families and AEA community members to attend a presentation and/or performance that puts technology at the center. Topics for culminating events can include Digital Game Design, Biomedical Art, Digital Storytelling, Recording Arts, etc. Potential barriers may include technological application and knowledge of teachers. To mitigate this barrier, teachers will receive ongoing professional development and work collaboratively with teachers and the Technology Integration Specialist to enhance their ability to navigate through technology and become comfortable integrating technology in the curriculum.

Summative evaluation (MM/DD/YYYY): 05/15/2015

##### \* Narrative explanation

AEA has identified measurable outcomes to determine students' engagement with technology improves their academic achievement. Summative data will be collected to analyze student grades, OAA scores, attendance records, and other school assessments and reports from teachers. Other sources of evaluation will include interviews and surveys with students, teachers, and parent/guardians. Questions will be designed to measure Einstein's Vision's overall effectiveness in the quality of implementation, communication, and outcomes. Consistent evaluation efforts will assist in supporting the continuation best practices. Upon data compilation, the Project Manager will create a final report with notes regarding strengths and weaknesses of the program, and suggestions as to how AEA can improve program development. Potential barriers may include lack of experience in evaluation/assessment and data analysis. To mitigate this barrier, AEA will require the qualifications of Project Manager and Technology Integration Specialist to have a wealth of experience in assessment and evaluation around technology-integrated models.

19. Describe the expected changes to the instructional and/or organizational practices in your institution.

Einstein's Vision is designed for students of the digital age to thrive in education by providing relevancy and consistency in their everyday common practices and modes of learning. AEA has identified technology as the mode to which students learn best; students are more engaged and empowered when technology is successfully integrated in the class curriculum. Many AEA teachers swiftly navigate through technology. They identify creative ways for technology to serve as a learning modality primarily due to student interest and engagement. However, AEA teachers have tendencies of leaning towards a traditional teaching style; landing in their comfort zone. There is no doubt that some traditional teaching methods such as lectures and demonstrations, seatwork, and listening and observing all have their place in education. These methods have been around for thousands of years shaping the minds of successful scholars and ordinary people. But education is transforming into a digital world; interactive and educational resources are available to teachers and students at the click of a button. Texts are updated regularly; information is more relevant. Through the use of technology, we have access to the world at our fingertips. How can we deny our students that opportunity? Einstein's Vision not only expects but demands changes in the instructional practices to ensure AEA students are receiving optimum learning experiences and a quality education that prepares them with the twenty-first century skills needed for their college and career endeavors. This instructional shift will require teachers to drop the "expert" role and become facilitators of knowledge; provide students with deep learning experiences and tools and techniques necessary to discover knowledge in meaningful and practical ways. By its very nature, the integration of technology naturally builds student-centered, project-based learning; a systematic teaching method engaging students in developing knowledge and skills through an extended inquiry process. The role of the teacher changes, yet is just as, if not more, critical to student success. The effectiveness of technology integration is based on the quality of instructional practice. Teachers will receive professional development to understand ways in which they can apply meaningful integration of technology; matching technology-based instructional tools with curricular goals, student learning objectives, desired outcomes, and instructional practice. These instructional processes alter in their approach to "educating the whole child". Instruction moves from rote learning to critical thinking and problem solving as the teacher becomes a facilitator and collaborator by setting the framework for safe and supportive learning environments and designed curriculum activities that reinforce key concepts and promote inquiry.

#### E) SUBSTANTIAL IMPACT AND LASTING VALUE - Impact, evaluation and replication

20. Describe the rationale, research or past success that supports the innovative project and its impact on student achievement, spending reduction in the five-year fiscal forecast or utilization of a greater share of resources in the classroom.

\*Personalized instruction is one of the strongest benefits of technology and one of the most critical factors in twenty-first century education. To help students achieve, it is essential to address their unique

learning needs, generally in small-group and one-on-one situations, and to move from a teacher-centered to a learner-centered environment. Schools with good technology implementations follow these practices. They also provide students with consistent access to digital resources, ensuring a dynamic rather than a static educational setting." (Project Red: Revolutionizing Education) Einstein's Vision is centered on the premise that a digital learning model will improve student achievement and provides students with twenty-first century skills. This premise stems from research supported by the International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE), which reports that education technology has a positive effect on student achievement. ISTE has identified seven factors for successful technology implementation, which will be adopted by Einstein's Vision: 1. Effective professional development for teachers in the integration of technology into instruction is necessary to support student learning; 2. Teachers' direct application of technology must be aligned to local and/or state curriculum standards; 3. Technology must be incorporated into daily learning schedule (i.e., not as supplement or after-school tutorial); 4. Programs and applications must provide individualized feedback to students and teachers must have the ability to tailor lessons to individual student needs; 5. Student collaboration in the use of technology is more effective in influencing student achievement than strictly individual use; 6. Project-based learning and real-world simulations are more effective in changing student motivation and achievement than rote learning; 7. Effective technology integration requires leadership, support, and modeling from teachers, administrators, and the community/parents. Past successes include Missouri's Instructional Networked Teaching Strategies (eMINTS), which adopted ISTE's seven factors upon implementation of a technology-integrated program. eMINTS supports elementary teachers to develop student-centered, inquiry-based instructional practices through technology. When comparing students in eMINTS classrooms with those in non-eMINTS classrooms, students who participated in eMINTS classrooms consistently outperformed their peers in statewide math assessments administered through the Missouri Assessment Program. Regarding the 1:1 education plan, Mooresville School District issued laptops three years ago to 4,400 students in grades 4th-12th in five schools. The district's graduation rate was 91 percent in 2011, up from 80 percent in 2008. An average of 88 percent of students across grades and subjects met proficiency standards on state tests in reading, math, and science. In the state of North Carolina, Mooresville now ranks third in test scores and second in graduation rates. Proper planning, policy, support, and clear goals and objectives will lead to effective implementation of the digital integration model. By adopting ISTE's seven factors, and policies and practices that have been deemed successful will lead to an improvement in student achievement. This model can be replicated, as it has been replicated successfully in the past. One unique quality Einstein's Vision is incorporating is a teacher-lead digital curriculum that provides more personalized learning and individualized instruction.

21. Is this project able to be replicated in other districts in Ohio?

Yes

No

22. If so, how?

Einstein's Vision may be replicated in other districts in Ohio. As schools and districts move towards adopting a digital learning platform, they may consider the integration of both, a teacher-lead digital curriculum and 1:1 education plan. To move towards digital integration, and replace textbooks, schools may opt in to purchasing a digital curriculum license for each student to ensure a personalized learning experience that meets individuals' learning needs. The digital curriculum can be used to serve as the teacher's framework for instruction and activities, as well as student credit recovery, remediation, intervention, acceleration, and exam preparation. A digital curriculum "...provides educators with the flexibility to meet the needs of all students as the models for the blended learning classroom evolve... Combining face-to-face classroom instruction with online content results in more effective teaching and an increase in student outcomes." (Apex Learning) This integrated instructional approach naturally creates student-centered, project-based learning experiences within the classroom- where the teacher serves a facilitator and lead collaborator role rather than the sole "expert" of knowledge. The 1:1 education plan has been adopted in the past, and deemed successful with clear guidelines, policies, and procedures in place upon implementation. "Chromebooks open up the whole world to students. The collective knowledge of the entire human race is on their desks, and that is the best gift any teacher can give to a student." (Peter Iles, Principal, Wisconsin) More than 3,000 schools worldwide have chosen Google Chromebooks for their affordability, manageability, and scalability. Many schools have also adopted Google Apps for Education. Google Apps includes Gmail (webmail service), Google Calendar (shared calendaring), Google Docs (online document, spreadsheet, presentation, and form creation and sharing), Google video (secure and private video sharing - 10GB free) and Google Sites (team website creation with videos, images, gadgets, and documents integration). According to Edmonton Public Schools Technology Integration Planning Coordinator, since the district moved to Google Apps, collaboration has flourished across the district. Students and teachers can blog about novels, use Google Spreadsheets to work out math problems, use Google Docs to share documents such as research projects, surveys, and lab reports, and use Google Tools to create websites with Google Sites that include links, pictures, videos and more. "Students are collaborating on projects, commenting on each other's writing, blogging about literature, and practicing twenty-first century skills all the time. They are accountable to each other and to me, and their homework writing / work is never left at home or lost in lockers... Engagement and homework completion rates have increased significantly and students like the ability to garner immediate feedback, edit, and then share them back with me for final assessment." (Teacher, Edmonton Public Schools) (Google Apps for Education) Both components: a teacher-lead digital curriculum and a 1:1 education plan have been replicated in the past as individual project initiatives, however; the combination of a teacher-lead digital curriculum and a 1:1 education plan within a single digital integration model may be a newer approach to a twenty-first century educational design.

23. Describe the substantial value and lasting impact that the project hopes to achieve.

Substantial value and lasting impact is contingent upon a plan to continue Einstein's Vision beyond the length of the grant, as well as develop students' 21st century skills for which they will apply to college, career, and life endeavors. In subsequent years, digital curriculum licenses will be purchased to replace textbooks, saving the school an estimate of \$15,000 a year. The 1:1 education plan follows a rent-to-own model where families agree to a payment plan for the GCB. Payments for laptops will replenish funds for additional GCB purchases, equipment and technical support. The Technology Integration Specialist will maintain a full-time salaried position through an anticipated 5 percent increase in student enrollment for the subsequent year. "In the twenty-first century, students must be fully engaged. This requires the use of technology tools and resources, involvement with interesting and relevant projects, and learning environments- including online environments- that are supportive and safe... In the twenty-first century, educators must be given and be prepared to use technology tools; they must be collaborators in learning- constantly seeking knowledge and acquiring new skills along with their students." (Using Technology to Transform Schools, 2010) Einstein's Vision will encourage student achievement and college and career preparation among 7th-12th grade students through technology-enriched programming that is engaging, interactive, rigorous, and relevant to the twenty-first century learner profile. The digital integration model will challenge students to think creatively and critically; to solve problems and work collaboratively; to be innovative. The development of these skills through academics is invaluable as they prepare for their college and career endeavors. In the twenty-first century, all students need to master core subjects and applied skills to navigate college, career, and life environments as well as skills particularly relevant in a competitive global economy. "Technology and twenty-first century skills are intrinsically related as well, in that learning twenty-first century skills requires the use of technology. Information, media, and technology skills themselves are one set of twenty-first century skills- and technology supports the learning of other twenty-first century skills, including critical thinking and problem solving; communication and collaboration; and creativity and innovation." (Dispelling Five Myths) Einstein's Vision hopes to achieve substantial value and lasting impact in the development and application of twenty-first century skills needed for students' future endeavors. Technology can help instill in students an eagerness to learn; a sense of motivation and determination to succeed in academia. "Technology provides powerful tools for organizing and analyzing information and modeling concepts and underlying structures. Students who have the opportunity to use these tools gain a deeper understanding of complex topics and concepts and are more likely to be able to recall information later in life and use it to solve problems in [academic and non-academic] situations." (Apple)

24. What are the specific benchmarks related to the fund goals identified in question 9 that the project aims to achieve in five years? Include any other anticipated outcomes of the project that you hope to achieve that may not be easily benchmarked.

Einstein's Vision sets forth the following benchmarks: Year 1: ?100 percent of AEA students will have a personalized education plan and 24/7 access to a digital curriculum license; ?100 percent of AEA students will be equipped with GCBs and Google Apps for Education; ?AEA will maintain a 100 percent graduation rate; ?60 percent of instruction will include a technology component in some format; ?50 percent of AEA students will demonstrate improvement in twenty-first century skills ?AEA faculty and staff will participate in monthly professional development opportunities to ensure they are staying current with technological innovations and educational trends; ?AEA will hire a full-time Technology Integration Specialist and a part-time Project Manager to coordinate Straight A Funds Year 2: ? New AEA students will receive a personalized education plan and 24/7 access to digital curriculum license; ?Recurring AEA students will meet with advisor to review academic status in Year 1, and discuss modifications / revisions to their education plan; ?New AEA students will be equipped with GCBs and Google Apps for Education; ?12th grade students will utilize GCBs for college preparation (research and college applications); ?70 percent of instruction will include a technology component in some format; ?60 percent of AEA students will demonstrate improvement in twenty-first century skills; ?AEA will maintain full-time Technology Integration Specialist; ?AEA faculty and staff will have access to webinars and other online professional development sources, and attend monthly professional development. Year 3: ?New AEA students will receive a personalized education plan and 24/7 access to digital curriculum license; ?Recurring AEA students will meet with advisor to review academic status in Year 2 and discuss modifications / revisions to education plan; ?New AEA students will be equipped with GCBs and Google Apps for Education; ?Qualified high school students will receive dual credit opportunities through partnerships with Lorain County Community College, Cuyahoga Community College, and Cleveland State University. ?80 percent of instruction will include a technology component in some format; ?70 percent of AEA students will demonstrate improvement in twenty-first century skills; ?AEA teachers will each lead a professional development session for peer teachers regarding technology-integration and digital application in the classroom; Year 4: ?New AEA students will receive a personalized education plan and 24/7 access to a digital curriculum license; ?Recurring AEA students will meet with advisor to review academic status in Year 3 and discuss modifications / revisions to education plan; ?New AEA students will be equipped with GCBs and Google Apps for Education; ?Qualified high school students will conduct on-site research projects at a local university using GCBs and Google Apps for Education; ?80 percent of instruction will include a technology component and will facilitate a learner-centered classroom; ?80 percent of AEA students will demonstrate improvement in twenty-first century skills; ?AEA faculty will host a local technology-integration conference that teaches best practices in digital learning and encourages model replication among schools/districts; Year 5: -New AEA students will receive a personalized education plan and 24/7 access to a digital curriculum license; -Recurring AEA students will meet with advisor to review academic status in Year 4 and discuss modifications / revisions to education plan; -New AEA students will be equipped with GCBs and Google Apps for Education; - High school students will conduct collaborative projects with students around the world via Google Apps for Education: Google Hangout; -90 percent of AEA students will demonstrate improvement in twenty-first century skills;

25. Describe the plan to evaluate the impact of the concept, strategy or approaches used.

\* Include the method by which progress toward short- and long-term objectives will be measured. (This section should include the types of data to be collected, the formative outputs and outcomes and the systems in place to track the program's progress).

\* Include the method, process and/or procedure by which the program will modify or change the program plan if measured progress is insufficient to meet program objectives.

AEA is committed to ongoing evaluation and documentation. Einstein's Vision impact will be measured both qualitatively and quantitatively, with data gathered regularly through classroom observations, pre- and post- assessments, teacher and parent/guardian surveys and interviews, student surveys and interviews, and documentation of student learning through the digital learning model. Summative data will be gathered to analyze OAA scores, student report cards, discipline and attendance records, participation, and other school reports. The Project Manager will meet regularly with Einstein's Vision program committee made up of representatives from the community to discuss data analysis and identify any areas that require modification to Einstein's Vision proposed plan. The program committee is instrumental in designing program goals and priorities for the continuation of Einstein's Vision for subsequent years. The Project Manager and Technology Integration Specialist will work collaboratively to review and assess data analysis for overall program quality and effectiveness and make adjustments to program design as necessary. The consultant of Curriculum and Instruction will work closely with AEA teachers and administration to assist in the design of assessment tools and standardized evaluation instruments that can be used over a five-year period to determine Einstein's Vision impact on student achievement. Evaluation results will identify the strengths and weaknesses of the program. Program modifications will be made based on the results from the 2014-2015 academic year. Upon public request, evaluation will be made available on the AEA website.

By virtue of applying for the Straight A Fund, all applicants agree to participate in the overall evaluation of the Straight A Fund for the duration of the evaluation timeframe. The Governing Board of the Straight A Fund reserves the right to conduct evaluation of the plan and request additional information in the form of data, surveys, interviews, focus groups, and any other related data to the legislature, governor, and other interested parties for an overall evaluation of the Straight A Fund.

PROGRAM ASSURANCES: I agree, on behalf of this applicant agency and/or all identified partners to abide by all assurances outlined in the Assurance section of the CCIP. In the box below, enter "I Accept" and indicate your name, title, agency/organization and today's date.

I accept. Bruce Thomas, Superintendent of Schools, Albert Einstein Academy of Westlake, 10/25/2013