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Adjusted Allocation: 0.00
Remaining: -157,548.00
**Application**

Big Walnut Local (046748) - Delaware County - 2014 - Straight A Fund - Rev 6 - Straight A Fund - Application Number (364)

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: Big Walnut Innovative Learning Environment

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.

   We are reopening an elementary school (due to increased enrollment) and want to replicate an innovative first grade classroom environment from one of our other elementary schools that includes projectors, Smartboards, and Chromebook labs. We would like to replicate this environment in 12 classrooms (K-4) and provide professional development to teachers to use the technology tools to personalize instruction for our students. We would be meeting all three goals: increasing student achievement (using QR codes to create personalized assignments that students can access from their Chromebooks as well as using the Chromebooks for formative and summative assessments); creating spending reductions in the five-year forecast (we have already forecasted buying the projectors and Smartboards and some Chromebooks); and utilizing a greater share of resources in the classroom (each student would have access to a Chromebook for personalized learning).

3. 320. Total Students Impacted:

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

   First Name, Last Name of contact for lead applicant: Angie Pollock, Assistant Superintendent

   Organizational name of lead applicant: Big Walnut Local Schools

   Unique Identifier (RN/Fed Tax ID): 046748

   Address of lead applicant: 105 Baughman Street, Suite A, Sunbury, OH 43074

   Phone Number of lead applicant: 740.965.3010

   Email Address of lead applicant: angiepollock@bigwalnut.k12.oh.us

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

   First Name, Last Name of contact for secondary applicant: Steve Mazzini, Superintendent

   Organizational name of secondary applicant: Big Walnut Local Schools

   Unique Identifier (RN/Fed Tax ID): 046748

   Address of secondary applicant: 105 Baughman Street, Suite A, Sunbury, OH 43074

   Phone number of secondary applicant: 740.965.3010

   Email address of secondary applicant: stevemazzini@bigwalnut.k12.oh.us

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.

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.

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.

   Teachers, administrators, and technology staff (including coaches) will work together to replicate the personalized environment created at Souders Elementary. Professional development would be key to successful implementation and we would use the teacher who has already implemented the model to help coach the others.

**B) PROJECT DESCRIPTION - Overall description of project 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.

    We are reopening an elementary school (due to increased enrollment) and want to replicate an innovative first grade classroom environment from one of our other elementary schools that includes projectors, Smartboards, and Chromebook labs. We would like to replicate this environment in 12 classrooms and provide professional development to teachers to use the technology tools to personalize instruction for our students. The Chromebooks will be used for center/station work while the teacher works with the students in small reading and math groups. Reading and math levels will be used to personalize students’ curriculum.

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, we would be meeting all three goals: increasing student achievement (using QR codes to create personalized assignments that students can access from their Chromebooks as well as using the Chromebooks for formative and summative assessments); creating spending reductions in the five-year forecast (we have already forecasted buying the projectors and Smartboards and some Chromebooks); and utilizing a greater share of resources in the classroom (each student would have access to a Chromebook for personalized learning).

**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 consortium or partnership, please include the five-year forecasts of each school district, community school or STEM school member for review.
14. What is the total cost for implementing the innovative project?

157,548.00 * 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, RIT 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).

We will use the Straight A Funds for the capital outlay (Chromebooks/carts, Smartboards, projectors) and we will use Title IIA funds to support professional development. We could also use RIT funds for some of the instructional technology.

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.

0.00 * Specific amount of new/recurring cost (annual cost after project is implemented)

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

We have the experts “in-house” to support the technology purchases and to provide professional development. The grant would cover the cost of the equipment.

D) IMPLEMENTATION - Timeline, communication and contingency planning

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

157,548.00 * 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.)

We would like to create an innovative environment in the new building. These funds would free up money to support our other costs associated with increasing enrollment.

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.

We have the experts “in-house” to support the technology purchases and to provide professional development. The grant would cover the cost of the equipment.

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.

We have seen a huge increase in student engagement in our current classroom that utilizes this technology.

We will continue to work with our teachers, coaches, and administrators to implement our plan.

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

[ ] Yes  [ ] No

22. If so, how?

They would need to purchase the same equipment and provide professional development for their teachers. We would welcome visitors who would like to visit our district to see the innovation in action.

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

We are educating children in an environment where technology is a focal point. Kids are digital natives and embrace technology as a learning platform. We think this classrooms will generate excitement for learning and increased academic achievement for our students. As we open an older school building and redistrict kids from a neighboring brand-new building, being able to provide them with a state-of-the-art environment will help generate a sense of pride and excitement for attending the facility.

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.

Increase in reading and math achievement and growth—our scores for gifted students are especially low and the personalized environment should help us increase differentiation on the gifted end of the spectrum. We have neglected allocating many funds for technology over the last few years due to budget constraints. These funds would help us “catch up” on technology purchases while reducing the five-year forecast expenses by $157,548.

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).

We will measure the increases in reading and math growth and achievement, especially in subgroups (special emphasis on gifted since we have our lowest scores there, but also with our IEP and economically disadvantaged students). We will collect survey data from teachers, students, and parents to evaluate the impact of the innovative environment on the climate of the building. We hope to continue to work with our teachers, coaches, and administrators to implement our plan.

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.

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<th>I accept</th>
<th>Angie Pollock</th>
<th>Assistant Superintendent</th>
<th>Big Walnut Local Schools</th>
<th>October 25, 2013</th>
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