

Budget

Brookwood Academy (013198) - Franklin County - 2014 - Straight A Fund - Rev 0 - Straight A Fund - Application Number (138)

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		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Support Services		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Governance/Admin		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Prof Development		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Family/Community		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
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	600,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	600,000.00
Total		0.00	0.00	600,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	600,000.00
Adjusted Allocation								0.00
Remaining								-600,000.00

Application

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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: Getting There's Half the Battle: Curb to Curb Transportation for Special Education Students

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.

Many special education students are not equipped to handle either traditional school bus transport or public bus type transports, they often miss considerable amount of school time due to fear of transport, length of transport or being removed from transport as a result of behavior; the funds for this project will enable Brookwood Academy to provide curb to curb transportation for such students thereby increasing the amount of academic time they receive. These monies will help to offset the transportation costs to Brookwood Academy, thereby freeing up Foundation and Weighted Funds for on-site educational purposes.

150 3. Total Students Impacted:

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

First Name, last Name of contact for lead applicant: Ellen Wristen

Organizational name of lead applicant: Executive Director, Brookwood Academy

Unique Identifier (IRN/Fed Tax ID): 013198

Address of lead applicant: 2685 East Livingston Avenue; Columbus, OH 43209

Phone Number of lead applicant: (614) 231-1199

Email Address of lead applicant: ellen_wristen@yahoo.com

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

First Name, last Name of contact for secondary applicant: John Birkner

Organizational name of secondary applicant: President of the Brookwood Academy School Board

Unique Identifier (IRN/Fed Tax ID): 013198

Address of secondary applicant: 2685 East Livingston Avenue; Columbus, OH 43209

Phone number of secondary applicant: (614) 231-1199

Email address of secondary applicant: johnbirkner@yahoo.com

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.

The team responsible for this project will consist of: Ms. Ellen Wristen who is the Executive Director for Brookwood Academy. Ms. Wristen has also been an attorney specializing in special education and/or expulsion litigation. Mr Glenn Byers who is an Assistant Director for Brookwood Academy and a LISW. Prior to this, Mr. Byers worked at Brookwood Community Learning Center, a special needs service provider, where he oversaw transportation and particularly disciplinary issues resulting from same. Ms Gwen Walker who is an Administrative Secretary at Brookwood Academy and was formerly a Sr. Human Resources Representative at Nationwide Insurance and also worked at Brookwood Community Learning Center as a liaison between parents and our transportation providers.

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.

This project will enable Brookwood to provide safe and regular transportation for the majority of Brookwood Academy's students who are special education identified (AU-42 students, CD-1 student, ED-80 students, MH-1 student, OHMinor-14 students, OHMajor-3 students, and SLD-2 students) and/or have parents who are seeking such an evaluation. Transportation is to be provided "curb to curb" from home to school and back for students whose IEPs or previous attendance issues indicate such a need. Transportation will be provided by one or more contract service providers utilizing small vans or van-type vehicles with no more than five students and a driver per vehicle.

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.

By utilizing vans with such a small number of students per vehicle it should be possible to reduce the amount of transport time to a minimum, to see that each student has enough "personal" space for their behavioral needs, to reduce the amount of negative student interactions and thus provide for safer and more reliable transport than traditional school bus or public bus type transportations can provide.

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.

Charter schools can apply for transportation reimbursement from ODE their first year of operation and are ordinarily receiving reimbursement in their second year, however, Brookwood Academy has been informed by ODE that it will not begin receiving its first reimbursements for its second year (2013-2014) until April of 2015 (which is the end of its third year). Based on what other charter schools have received in the past, Brookwood Academy can expect to receive approximately 50% or slightly less of the annual transportation costs in reimbursements which is the amount we are asking for in this grant. (\$60,000.00 per year divided by 2 = \$30,000.00 reimbursement per year times two years = \$60,000.00)

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

60,000.00 * 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).

Any transportation costs not covered by the grant funds (and subsequently by ODE reimbursements) will be paid from foundation and/or weighted funding.

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 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.

As noted above, by the time that the grant funds have been exhausted, ODE reimbursements should begin to arrive. Brookwood Academy will still need to make up approximately the same amount (50% or slightly more) in order to cover transportation costs when grant funding ceases and ODE reimbursements begin. NOTE: All these costs are for contract services and thus no Brookwood Academy staff or equipment are included in this proposal.

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

0.00 * 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.)

While there will be no "apparent" savings, this grant will allow Brookwood Academy to provide additional educational services to its students which would otherwise be delayed by a year and a half—that is—three years from the time Brookwood Academy first requested transportation reimbursements from ODE. NOTE: To the best of our knowledge no other charter school has had a three year delay in receiving transportation reimbursements.

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.

As noted above, this grant would be used as interim funding until such time as ODE commences transportation reimbursements for Brookwood Academy therefore there should be no reason why this project is not self-sustaining.

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): Completed 10/24/2013

* Narrative explanation

Transportation, such as described above, has in fact been offered by Brookwood Academy since its inception and it is the direct result of the experiences many key Brookwood Academy Staff had when they worked at Brookwood Community Learning Center with its students and parents. Secure and reliable transportation is absolutely essential to the academic attendance and thus success of our students.

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

* Narrative explanation

Transportation of students as delineated above is currently underway.

Summative evaluation (MM/DD/YYYY): 06/30/2015

* Narrative explanation

Brookwood Academy would expect to conduct an interim evaluation at the end of the 2013-2014 school year and a final evaluation at the end of the 2014-2015 school year.

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

Funding which is currently being diverted for transportation costs while Brookwood Academy awaits the longer than expected reimbursement process to be redirected for classroom support, staff training and additional staff.

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.

Brookwood Academy has developed a referral network of community resources (OSU Inpatient Psych, Juvenile Court personnel, Buckeye Ranch Residential & Counseling Services, St. Vincent's Residential & Counseling Services, and Franklin County Children Services) all of whom view "curb to curb" transport as an essential component of their students' educational placements in order for them to achieve success.

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

Yes

No

22. If so, how?

By doing exactly what we are asking to do, however, is to be hoped ODE will address the issues which have resulted in transportation reimbursements being delayed to Brookwood Academy so that no other charter schools will find themselves in this position.

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

Three hundred thousand additional dollars per year will have a dramatic impact on the Brookwood Academy program and its ability to serve some very challenging students. Three hundred thousand dollars could pay for an additional Reading Specialist, 1 or more Intervention Specialist, an elementary Teacher or two and/or several additional Para Instructors. Alternatively these funds, in part or toto, could be used to buy educational supplies such as computers, reading curriculums, etc. or additional staff training in serving special needs students.

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.

The specific benchmark for the success of this grant will be determined by the amount of monies for direct educational services which are freed up while at the same time allowing Brookwood Academy to provide safe and reliable transportation in the manner described in this grant.

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.

If the grant monies should not be sufficient to pay for up to 50% of BA's yearly transportation costs, then the shortfall will be made up by Brookwood Academy's general fund.

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. Ellen Wristen, Executive Director of Brookwood Academy 10/24/13