### Chippewa Local (050534) - Wayne County - 2014 - Straight A Fund - Rev 0 - Straight A Fund - Application Number (108)

#### U.S.A.S. Fund #:

**Plus/Minus Sheet (opens new window)**

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**Adjusted Allocation:** 0.00

**Remaining:** -162,494.30
C) SUSTAINABILITY

11. Describe the innovative project.

Chippewa Local Schools would like to align their progress monitoring assessments in math, reading, social studies and science with common programs through all grade levels. The use of tablets would allow that technology to be extremely versatile with many educational advantages for students and staff. The Straight A Funds would allow us to improve student achievement through all grades as we utilize consistent assessments and therefore access data that will follow students through all grades. Once we have assistance paying for the initial start up costs, including hardware, we would be able to purchase vendor assessment renewals on a yearly basis.

12. Describe how it will meet the goal(s) selected above.

Having this individual information will provide staff with the data to make well planned decisions to provide intervention when needed to ensure growth. The data will also indicate whether the interventions are effective or if they need changed. These programs will also allow teachers to follow a student's progress from kindergarten through graduation. The purchasing of technology for each building would allow teachers to not only assess students on a consistent basis, but also would provide individual interventions to students through the use of apps and other programs available. The use of tablets would allow that technology to be extremely versatile with many educational advantages for students and staff. The Straight A Funds would allow us to improve student achievement through all grades.

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Phone Number of lead applicant: 330 658-6368 X 101
Email Address of lead applicant: chip_mrodriguez@tcsca.net

The Straight A Funds would allow us to improve student achievement through all grades.

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 Curriculum Team, which consists of the Curriculum Director as well as a designated Curriculum Specialist for the Elementary, Middle and High School will be responsible for the implementation. This team has been working diligently to align the curriculum as well as the vendor assessments at each grade level. It is important to have consistent assessments and data in order to develop a portfolio for each student. Each member is a licensed Administrator as well as licensed to evaluate teachers through the Ohio Teacher Evaluation System. Each team member has also been through rigorous training for Student Learning Objectives and choosing vendor assessments.

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)

This will enable teachers to quickly and efficiently assess student's progress on an individual basis.

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

Existing and researched-based - never implemented in your district or community school but proven successful in other educational environments

11. Describe the innovative project.

While conducting a needs assessment to determine the quality and quantity of data collection necessary, it was determined that the existing and researched based interventions were more efficient and effective.

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

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

* Letters of support for are 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.

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.

For the most recent Report Card, Chippewa scored poorly in the area of Progress/Value Added; earning an F. As we work towards improving student achievement and ensuring that each of our students is able to successfully show one year's growth or more, it became apparent that Chippewa must be more consistent with progress monitoring, assessment and data collection in order to individualize instruction. As we utilize consistent assessments in math, reading, social studies and science with common programs through all grade levels, we will be better able to track student growth and provide interventions where needed as we build student portfolios. Easy access to student assessment will be necessary so as to not disrupt the classroom teaching strategies and being able to provide remediation quickly and correctly.

13. Improved Student Achievement: We are currently a school district that received a letter grade of an F on the new state report card in value added for all students. While conducting a needs assessment to properly address this poor performance, we created this plan of attack. Being able to assess and collect data on every student, will better equip our staff to differentiate the instruction, curriculum and provide interventions when needed to expand or remediate students' learning. Having 2 classroom sets of iPads in each building will allow classrooms to share resources as well as students sharing resources. This will enable teachers to quickly and efficiently assess student's progress on an individual basis. The data collected will enable us to create individualized interventions.
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.

The Straight A Financial Impact Template is not applicable as our goal is not relative to the goal of reduced spending in the 5 year forecast. We will however be able to demonstrate sustainability. Initial start-up cost for this project is $162,494.30. Once the start up dollars are procured, Chippewa Local will be able to sustain the project for approximately $40,000 per year. The Board of Education is able to commit to this.

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

162,494.30 * 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).

The budget includes 180 iPads; 2 classroom sets each for the High School, Middle School and Elementary School. These will allow the students to quickly complete an assessment as well as individualize the interventions. The iPads require a Mac Book to allow apps to be installed. The total cost for the iPads, Sync-arts, Voucher for Apps, Mac Book Pro and cases is $119,844.70. Assessment software and programming will be purchased from Core-Software and Sciences in grades 2-11, Renaissance Learning for Reading and Math in grades K-12, and ACT/Quality Core for AP Chemistry, AP Calculus, AP Physics, English, Algebra I and II, Geometry, Pre-Calculus, Biology, Chemistry, Physics and US History. The total cost for all software programs and memberships for the first year is $50,549.60. Local funding includes $12,500 for Curriculum support through our Educational Service Center, technology assistance from our Internal Technology Director as well as administration.

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.

40,000.00 * 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.

This is the cost of renewing memberships and software for the assessments which provide the data for student growth.

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.)

none

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.

The annual savings is due to the fact that the initial technology needed as well as the software program and membership needed would be provided by Straight A fund. The renewal costs for the program would be minimal at approximately $40,000 per year therefore the initial cost of $162,494.30 is reduced to less than $40,000 per year. This would be sustained with a commitment from the Board of Education. Initial start-up as well as technology and hardware would be provided by the grant. Only the renewal fee for the Assessment programs would incur a cost.

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): 01/01/2014

* Narrative explanation

The planning of the project has already taken place. The Curriculum Coordinator, Curriculum Specialists and other Administrators have met weekly to assess the needs of the District and plan appropriate actions. They are prepared to implement the assessments strategy and interventions as soon as possible. It would be counterproductive to begin the assessments during second semester. Therefore, the timeline would be to train teachers by June 2014. The program would then be implemented completely for the 2014-15 school year. The largest and probably only barrier would be not having the finances to purchase the necessary technology and software.

Implement (MM/DD/YYYY): 08/25/2014

* Narrative explanation

Once awarded the funds, Chippewa would immediately begin implementing the programming. The Curriculum Committee would continue to meet on a bi-weekly basis to coordinate and oversee the program. The iPads would be set up in July and August to be ready for the start of school. The software memberships would be purchased and students would begin assessments at the start of the school year. Interventions would take place based on the results of individual assessments. Again, the only barrier to the implementation of the project would be if we were not awarded the funding. It would be difficult to impossible for Chippewa to commit to over $160,000 in funding.

Summative evaluation (MM/DD/YYYY): 06/15/2015

* Narrative explanation

This project would allow Chippewa to track individual achievement. We would be able to evaluate the program by individual student's progress as well as by the State Report Card. As mentioned, Chippewa received an F on the Progress/Value Added category. Raising the Progress Grade would certainly be a positive summative evaluation.

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

The expected changes to the instructional practices in our district are to assess all students three times a year while assessing students in need of interventions more often. This practice will allow us to benchmark every student to make sure they are at their appropriate level. Students who are not at level will be placed on an improvement plan to get them caught up. Also, knowing each student's current level will allow us to develop individualized curriculum to maximize their yearly gain. With the addition of the computer tablets, our schools will be able to customize interventions by using apps along with being able to assess student individually to measure growth in a timely fashion. The tablets will also allow us to differentiate learning based on students' current levels. Utilizing the end of the course exams at the high school level will assure that our curriculum and instruction has the rigor needed to prepare students for the levels expected at college and career readiness. This entire process will allow us to have a running portfolio for every student with year by year data in the major subjects on line and allow staff access to the data to best plan and implement each student's education.

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 purchased the Star Reading and Math program for first through fourth grades at Hazel Harvey Elementary. We monitored the growth of individual students as we utilized the assessments and interventions. After evaluating the success of the program on a small scale, we knew that it would benefit Chippewa Local to implement the program full scale. It will be beneficial to students on an individual basis as well as the entire district to utilize a consistent program from Kindergarten through Grade 12. This will allow the District to create portfolios that follow students throughout their academic career. We will know how the student was assessed and what interventions created a successful increase in achievement.

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

Yes
22. If so, how?

Other Districts can replicate this program by creating a Curriculum Committee which will design the implementation plan. Once teachers are trained, and the software programs are purchased the students will participate in the assessments and interventions.

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

The value of this project is that teaching strategies will focus on assessing students throughout the curriculum and providing appropriate interventions that are specific to individual student needs. This will enable teachers to focus on differentiating instruction as well as interventions for students. This will absolutely change the way teachers approach their classroom.

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 first goal of this project is to improve the F earned in the Progress category on the State Report Card. Our goal is to raise the letter grade of F to an A within 5 years. Secondly our goal would be to embrace this project and use it as our intervention strategy for students. We will not purchase other intervention programs. Lastly, the iPads and software programs will allow sharing of resources within the classroom. Students will be assessed and interventions will be designed to help improve individual student achievement.

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.

Progress will be measured by the data provided with the Software program. When students complete the assessments on a regular basis, the data is collected and kept for each student. Students who score above proficient are assessed at least 3 times per year, students scoring below proficient are assessed every four to six weeks. All data is created within the program as students complete the assessments. Interventions will be documented to determine their success/failure.

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 Sandy Stebly, Superintendent, Chippewa Local Schools, 10/23/2013