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**Adjusted Allocation:** 0.00

**Remaining:** -182,000.00
Clearview Local (048132) - Lorain County - Straight A Fund - Rev 0 - Straight A Fund - Application Number (285)

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: Clearview Connections

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.

3. Total Students Impacted: 1600

4. Lead applicant primary contact: - Provide the following information:
   First Name, last Name of contact for lead applicant: Michael Tomlin-Brenner
   Organizational name of lead applicant: Clearview Local School District
   Unique Identifier (RIN/Fed Tax ID): 048132
   Address of lead applicant: 4700 Broadway, Lorain, Ohio, 44052
   Phone Number of lead applicant: 440-213-7760
   Email Address of lead applicant: Mike.Tomlin-Brenner@Clearviewschools.org

5. Secondary applicant contact: - Provide the following information, if applicable:
   First Name, last Name of contact for secondary applicant: N/A
   Organizational name of secondary applicant: N/A
   Unique Identifier (RIN/Fed Tax ID): N/A
   Address of secondary applicant: N/A
   Phone number of secondary applicant: N/A
   Email address of secondary applicant: N/A

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 (RIN/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).

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.

EMG Technology is our resource for maintenance, upgrades, and professional development. They have been with Clearview for 2 years now and know our systems well. We just finished working with them in a migration from Outlook to Google Mail, and they provided us with professional development to help with the move. They helped us to move to Google Chrome from Internet Explorer and keep our islands, Turning Point clickers, and Renaissance software up-to-speed. EMG is working with the North Coast Council (NCC), our A-Site providers, with the wireless survey and installation of switches and access points. Clearview has worked with NORTZH (The Northern Ohio Research, Training and Technology Hub), our ESC technology resource - providing Google professional development and coding programs for our high schools. As Curriculum Director I also chair the district technology committee, serve on the RTf transformation team, and plan the District Leadership team agendas. In this way I can communicate with various stakeholders throughout the district and connect the needs, goals, and strategies of buildings, grade-levels, content, and administration; Kindergarten through 12th Grade.

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 research-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.

The Clearview District is dedicated to improvement, having moved from Continuous Improvement in 2009 to Excellent in 2013, with the help of the CIP (Ohio Improvement Process) and RTf (Race to the Top). Our district has been making forays into the realm of technological pedagogy, but has been stymied by our lack of district-wide wireless access. We have implemented some FLIPPED classroom experiences in our High School Science classes; we have sent teachers to Google workshops; over the last four years we have purchased classroom sets (and docking carts) of NEO2 word processors, aptop computers, and Google ChromeBook machines; we moved our entire system from Outlook to Google and provided district-wide professional development; as part of our Race to the Top scope of work we have implemented a number of IIS (Instructional Improvement System) tools, such as TestingWerks, Curriculum Mapper, OBServation, and Renaissance STAR. In every case, as we move to implement, we are pulled up short by our lack of a sufficient wireless network. Using local/classroom access points only works for smaller populations of students/teachers and creates a patchwork of user codes that often sends our buildings into crash-mode. Teachers that start out with positive motivation become less supportive - making the job of moving to a more technologically appropriate pedagogy even more difficult. We are on the brink of moving to a more modern educational system and have a number of teachers willing to try things out. We are using electronic curriculum tools such as Study Island, Renaissance Learning, Reading A-Z, BrainPop, etc. We use our TBTs (Teacher Based Teams) to provide local/targeted professional development. We would like to move to a more modern electronic curriculum base, i.e., texts and resources, but can not, without the wireless component. While our present budget situation will support the implementation of a wireless system in one of our three buildings - a district-wide implementation would be more effective. Because Clearview’s tax-base is one of the lowest in Ohio, our funding is not strong enough to provide the resources necessary, even though we have passed three levies in the last four years. As we struggle to keep up with student needs and still reach out to more effective pedagogy, we find it difficult to replace existing resources - much less invest in additional ones. Since we have the 2nd highest percentage of Open Enrollment students in Ohio, our residents must support students from neighboring communities - as well as their own.
While the generous Clearview community is willing to share its meager resources, support from the Straight A Fund would lift our progress to the next level, allowing us to apply our efforts more strategically and effectively. In order to make optimum use of electronic resources we would have to extend the wireless initiative to all three buildings. This would require a complete wireless survey, the installation of a building-wide network, and the placement of sufficient wireless access points in all areas of the school to provide access points everywhere. The upgrade of our 10-year-old server would provide reliable/complete Google usage for teachers and students. With the addition of an electronic cart of 30 (classroom set) Chromebooks for each grade-level, we would be in a position to make use of electronic resources as a substantive teaching tool.

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. Clearview has made significant progress toward goals selected above. During the last four years, its middle school has gone from "School Improvement" status to "Excellent." It has used OIP, RTT, ARRA, and federal grant funds to supplement local funds in order to implement a comprehensive wireless infrastructure classroom, improve professional development, and identify initiatives that would improve academic achievement in the years to come. In order to maintain this growth and continue to improve, we need to provide a solid foundation from which to build a sustainable program.

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

While the Clearview community is willing to share its resources, support from the Straight A Fund would allow the district to use that $10,000 for replacement costs, software purchases, maintenance, and professional development.

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.

N/A

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

$182,000.00 * Total project cost

* 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.

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.

$3,000.00 * 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.)

Since Clearview is requesting funding primarily for one-time infrastructure and hardware costs, the majority of the recurring expense will be maintenance - most of which would exist anyway. While our budget could not support the initial investment of funds at all once, it is set up to handle replacement costs and smaller equipment purchases - which will provide additional Chromebooks (as well as desktop machines) in the future. We have been using Race to the Top and Title I (Building-Wide at 2/3/3) Capital Improvement funds to make smaller purchases for instructional and administrative purposes, and will continue to do so. The monthly lease of access points ($40/40 per location) will be covered through Title I and eRate funding for the district General Fund. Since the plan already exists and was budgeted for a single building, that additional recurring cost will be minimal. The purchases we have made over the last four years through ARRA, RTT, and Title I - hardware, software, and professional development - have given us a strong foundation from which to launch Clearview Connections. With Straight A Funding backing the district can move comfortably to the next level, and continue to fund itself at that plateau.

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

$25,000.00 * 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.)

D) IMPLEMENTATION - Timeline, communication and contingency planning

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 through the project's management 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.

Teachers are becoming more and more open to the use of technology in the classroom. As we provide more and more resources they become eager to apply the materials. Last year (2012/13) Our District Tech Committee recommended and reworded our new district-wide Technology Acceptable Use Policy - which the Clearview Board of Education approved in June; this policy speaks to the possibility of a BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) environment; a BYOD pedagogy would be an educationally sound strategy, but teachers are unable to implement BYOD because of a lack of wireless access. Students in today's classrooms are already tech-savvy - they, too, are ready to make use of new resources. While Clearview has been able to offer access to tech and staff a taste of these resources, the Straight A Fund grant would provide a solid foundation from which to build a sustainable program. The infusion of resources from the Straight A Fund would free up money for ongoing costs, as well as for additional resources that would otherwise be unavailable. While the $10,000 that we are currently investing in Google Chromebooks could never add up to a class-set at every grade level, the purchase through Straight A funding would allow the district to use that $10,000 for replacement costs, software purchases, maintenance, and professional development. Once teachers and students become comfortable with the use of this equipment, it will not be necessary to recreate the project - only to maintain the system. The positive atmosphere that will be created by providing Clearview with these resources will be repaid through enhanced energy, motivation, and achievement.

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 how you plan to proactively mitigate or remove those 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 Details

Plan (MM/DD/YYYY): 12/11/13 - 3/31/14
Because "Clearview Connections" is a part of a long-range plan, we have been discussing our needs, requirements, and additional expectations for several years. The bulk of the planning stage is completed, as is a majority of the "piloting" process. As it stand now, we are at a "Yellow Light" stage and will be waiting for the "Green Light" that will allow us to move forward. At the same time we realize that there are other projects that we have overlooked. "Clearview Connections" will be an integral part of our DLT, Technology Committee, and Administrative Team Meeting agendas. We will be performing ongoing assessments of progress and monitoring implementation as we go - allowing for adjustments and additional details along the way. Our continuous planning mode will rely on formative assessments of progress at every step of the way.

**Narrative explanation**

January 2014 - Review progress and plan monthly implementation – Schedule Building Wireless Survey with NCC – Schedule wiring installation for February, to be based on survey results – Plan technology professional development for Waiver Day in Feb, as well as for May waiver day and June PD – Order ChromeBooks and carts for each grade level – Order Server – February, 2014 - Review progress and plan monthly implementation – Review results of the Building Wireless Survey – Install wiring based on survey results – Order Access Points based on survey results – Provide technology professional development at Waiver Day – Continue to plan for Professional development – Inventory and Tag each ChromeBook and cart – Charge-Up all ChromeBooks – Have each BLT create an implementation plan to detail how Carts/ChromeBooks will be scheduled, shared, monitored. – Have EACH BLT create a building PD plan that will help every staff member be ready to use the ChromeBooks March – Review progress and plan monthly implementation – Install Access Points in classrooms – Continue to plan for Professional development – Have BLTs provide small group/local PD targeted to individual staff needs – Test connections (Server, Switches, Access Points, ChromeBooks) and report situation/August – Make adjustments as needed, based connection tests. – Have teachers pilot ChromeBook usage where possible – Make necessary changes to process based on feedback/August – Create child plan for Professional development – Create Ashland University Grad credit proposal for June technology PD – Review progress and plan monthly implementation – Continue to plan for Professional development

**Summative evaluation** (MM/DD/YYYY): 6/15/14

**Narrative explanation**

Summative Assessment will be compiled from teacher survey, committee feedback, and usage journals - as well as anecdotal reporting from administrators through walkthroughs and evaluation observations. We do not expect to see achievement score data related to "Clearview Connections" at this time - but future results should confirm the positive impact. In addition, as teachers use the network and the ChromeBooks, requests for additional machines, materials, and related software/Internet subscriptions will provide more feedback.

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

According to Newton’s Laws of Motion, overcoming inertia is more difficult than keeping a moving object in motion. Over the last four years Clearview has moved from Continuous Improvement to Excellent. A small district with high poverty, high sub-group population, and low tax base - has come to see itself as the School of Promise that ODE has awarded us for three of those four years. Value Added results from the 2011/2012 school year (reported in 2013) placed Clearview at # 21 out of 800 school districts, and last year’s results placed the district at #138 - an A. We would like to implement Clearview Connections (with Straight A Funding) in order to maintain our growth and improve our achievement further. We have staff ready to implement current technological pedagogy, but they are being held back by our lack of a comprehensive wireless network and a dearth of equipment. Our involvement with the DIP (Ohio Improvement Process) and RTT (Race to the Top) has ramped up our organizational practices, and as of now we are focused on communication and data technology to scaffold our more complex organization we run into multiple glitches caused by our lack of a comprehensive wireless network and/or equipment. As part of our improvement plan Clearview has been granted Waiver Days for professional development. Technology PD has been a major component of these Waiver Days. Again and again, the Technology Committee and the district Transformation Team is slowed in their attempts to bring all staff up to speed by the limitations of our electronic networking system and our lack of up-to-date equipment. Our current organization does not allow for the higher level of technology and equipment that will help every staff member be ready to use the ChromeBooks.

The district will be able to document the strategic use of technology in 100% of the classrooms. The district will be able to document appropriate student usage of technology tools The district will be able to document student proficiency with appropriate technology tools at various grade levels. The district will continue to make progress on Ohio Report Card indicators. The district will continue to research and implement appropriate technological resources as they become available.

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

* YES  
* NO

22. If so, how?

This project is unique in the sense that it is the product of four years of work. However, the idea of “installing a reliable wireless network in all of a district’s buildings” is certainly capable of replication - as is the purchase of ChromeBooks for each grade level. The fact is, though, “Clearview Connections” is also about the why - the reason we want this network and these machines is based on our past work. We have made some progress and we have identified "Clearview Connections" as the strategy we need to move forward at this time. Our success with this initiative will be based on the foundational work we have already done, that has lead up to this point. BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) is not a new idea - but we have identified it as a strategy that will enhance our existing initiatives; ChromeBooks are not unique, but we have used Google successfully and have identified the ChromeBook as a reliable tool that can be purchased at a reasonable price. We have used the NEO word-processor successfully at $99 @ and we have used lap-top computers successfully at $500 @ - the ChromeBook at $250 @ will be a good choice.

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

As our District Professional Growth Team continues to evaluate SOLs (Student Learning Objectives), we observe first hand our teachers reaching for rigorous academic goals. As our RTT Transformation team reviews our Scope of Work and determines if we are meeting our benchmarks, we see what tools we will need to reach a higher level. As our staff increases its collaboration, we see which modes of communication are missing. In the last four years we have implemented a number of new practices: the use of SMART Boards for instruction; the use of hand held clickers for formative assessment; the use of student learning goals; the implementation of PD; the use of Google Drive to store and share both student and teacher information. “Clearview Connections” is designed to strengthen these initiatives, as well as to move staff and students to a higher level of practice and achievement. This project will enhance our academic endeavors as well as strengthen our energy and motivation to move even higher.

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 district will be able to document the strategic use of technology in 100% of the classrooms. The district will be able to document appropriate student usage of technology tools The district will be able to document student proficiency with appropriate technology tools at various grade levels. The district will continue to make progress on Ohio Report Card indicators. The district will continue to research and implement appropriate technological resources as they become available.

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.
- 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.

Our involvement with DIP (Ohio Improvement Process) and RTT (Race to the Top) has helped us in the use of agendas and meeting-minutes to document our work toward setting and achieving goals. Once Clearview Connections has been accepted by the Straight A Fund, this program will become part of our ongoing strategy for district improvement, and as such will be an integral piece of the District Leadership Team, the District Technology Committee, the Building Leadership Teams, and the Race to the Top Transformation Team. We will revisit the progress of our plan (as stated in our implementation Schedule) on a regular basis at all of these various monthly meetings. Our short-term goals of implementing a new wireless system are straightforward and concrete - easily measured and documented - but future results should confirm the positive impact of extending existing protocols. By following timelines and collecting timely progress data we should have more than enough time to install the needed equipment in time for the use of the ChromeBooks. Because we are enhancing an existing implementation, we have already begun professional development for Google Drive, have already begun installing Google Chrome platforms on machines, and have Waiver Days in place. Additional PD days in June are far enough out to allow planning around ChromeBooks, Google Drive, and Technology Pedagogy even if unforeseen delivery problems arise.

Long Term goals of student achievement and improving teacher instructional practices, are already being measured through eTPES, Value Added, and the State Report Card. In addition, local data use...
through TestingWerks and by the DLT and BLTs are in place and are part of an ongoing review process. While international research confirms the positive results of using technology in the classroom, the actual details of implementation will be determined by each teacher in each classroom. Our system of evaluation observation and walk-throughs - already connected to the DLT, BLT, and TBT process - will allow for feedback, adjustment, and improvement as each case calls for it. While we do not foresee major problems with implementation, our present plan calls for a slower, less effective implementation over a longer period of time. Our fallback would be to move to that existing plan and continue to implement at a slower pace.

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 - Michael Tomlin-Brenner, Curriculum Director, Clearview Local Schools (048132) October 25, 2013