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Adjusted Allocation: 0.00

Remaining: -439,470.00
**Application**

Fayette Local (047068) - Fulton County - 2014 - Straight A Fund - Rev 0 - Straight A Fund - Application Number #191

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:** Partnering in Rural STEM Education

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.

This proposal will provide opportunities for student achievement through instructional services with Northwest State Community College (NWSCC). Spending reductions will occur as articulation agreements allow students to attend NWSCC, without cost to school or student, while remaining students at their local school. Utilization of instructional expertise will be accessible for all students across multiple districts and college and/or career preparation will be made available with the addition of hands on labs to solidly learning.

962.3 Total Students Impacted:

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

First Name, last Name of contact for lead applicant: Erik Beicher
Organizational name of lead applicant: Fayette Local Schools
Unique Identifier (RN/Fed Tax ID): 047068
Address of lead applicant: 400 East Gamble Road, Fayette, OH 43251
Phone Number of lead applicant: 419.237.2573
Email Address of lead applicant: ebeicher@fayettesch.org

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

First Name, last Name of contact for secondary applicant: Tod Hug
Organizational name of secondary applicant: Ayersville Local Schools
Unique Identifier (RN/Fed Tax ID): 046706
Address of secondary applicant: 28046 Watson Road Defiance, OH 43512
Phone number of secondary applicant: 419.395.1111
Email address of secondary applicant: thug@ayersvilleschools.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 (RN/Fed Tax ID), Address, Phone Number, Email Address of Contact for All Secondary Applicants in the box below.

Archbold Area Local Aaron Rex, Superintendent 600 Lafayette St. Archbold, OH 43502 Area@Archboldschools.org IRN: 047043 419-448-2728 Holgate Local Schools Kelly Meyers, Superintendent 801 E. Joe E Brown Avenue Colgate, OH 43527 kimeyers@holgate.k12.oh.us RN: 047571 419-264-5141 Swanton Local Schools Jeff Schlaibe, Superintendent 108 North Main St. Swanton, OH 43558 jeff.schlaibe@swantonschools.org IRN: 047092 419-826-7085 Thomas Stuckey Northwest State Community College, President 22600 St Rd 34 Archbold, OH 43502 Tstuckey@northweststate.edu Tax ID: 419.267-1320

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.

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.**

Fayette Local Schools has successfully implemented a before and after school program with ODE 21st-Century Community Learning Centers. It has also successfully implemented Race to the Top (RTT) initiatives that effectively promote student achievement in all grades. Fayette Local Schools is positioned to effectively and efficiently manage this project. Fayette Local Schools Chief Financial Officer has 24 years of business, Manager of Farmers and Merchants State Bank, and school-based financial operations experience. CFO has managed multimillion dollar programs and served on the Economic Development Council. CFO has met with all partnership school treasurers in preparation for the Straight A Fund grant application. A detailed explanation has been given regarding programming, expected results of grant, and reporting based upon grant assurances. Program manager has 13 years' experience administering grants and has successfully implemented all initiatives and deliverables. Program manager administered all budgets and operations for 19 individual 21st Century Community Learning Centers with a budget of $12.7 million. Programs employed 357 teachers who provided instruction for over 3750 K-12 students. Student programming utilized hands-on, real world approaches with proven academic success. Partnership also successfully implemented a $200,000 multidistrict Third Grade Guarantee Grant data program that facilitated student success in preparation for the third grade reading Ohio Achievement Assessment. This program connected the early literacy student data of 23 districts with the goal of providing professional development and intervention services in a shared model. This effort reduced administrative costs and streamlined the data collection process aimed at targeting those students in danger of retention. The Local Government Innovation Fund (LGIF) was awarded that allows the partnership to investigate further opportunities to create more efficient and effective service delivery. Project is expected to facilitate efficiency, collaboration, or shared administrative services. Government Innovation Fund proposal indicates a potential $300,000 per year savings through shared administrative services. Partnership member district superintendent experience exceeds 150 years of combined experience, leading building projects totaling over $270 million over the past 8 years. Partnership Superintendents meet very much to participate in discussions that impact rural students. Partnership Treasurers meet quarterly. Partnership guidance counselors meet yearly to ascertain scheduling and programming changes that impact all schools. NSCC has been a part of the National Science Foundation grant given to a partnership of Ohio Community Colleges for an initiative called We Are IT. This STEM focused event targeted 8-10 grade females to explore STEM careers and majors on a college campus. The past two years, the name was changed to We Are STEM and included young men as well. This has been an annual event for more than 6 years and serves 200 high school students from the 8 county area. Realizing that career paths are cultivated in early development, Northwest State created a STEM experience for fifth through eighth grade students with a week-long summer camp. NSCC STEM Camp allows students to spend four days diving deeper into hands on learning. The first camp was held in 2012 with two one-week sessions where students explored a single STEM topic in depth. In 2013, STEM camp allowed students to explore the vast diversity of STEM fields. Northwest State has joined the Ohio STEM Equity Pipeline project. Through the National Alliance for Partnerships in Equity (NAPE) and the National Science Foundation we have worked through intense training with Vantage Career Center and community partners. This training allows the college and partners to work through barriers to STEM career education by investigating social, academic and industry influence.

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.

An innovation is one of those things that society looks at and says, if we make this part of the way we live and work, it will change the way we live and work." - Dean Kamen, (Sputnik, September 28, 2011)
Technology has the ability to innovatively change the way teachers conduct their classrooms and the way students connect to learning, both in the classroom and out.

12. Describe how it will meet the goal(s) selected above. The five district partnership has opened these curriculum offerings to any student of each participating school. That funding shift does not automatically increase educational opportunity or place more quality resources in the classroom. The result is that a school may get more of the same, just in greater quantities. That does not lead to student success. It is a mirage that curiosity survives formal education. (Albert Einstein) This proposal places the students at the center of the learning experience. Virtual schools historically tend to target students who are at risk of dropping out of school the recovery approach that connects the student to the objective. The obvious conclusion is that schools play catch-up after failing to adequately educate students at the required level. Our goal of student success is not merely completing the required course of institutional study, but rather this proposal places the students at the center of the learning experience. Student achievement is achieved by bringing a greater share of educational resources to the classroom.

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

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

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

16. Are there any expected savings that may result from the implementation of the innovative project?
D) IMPLEMENTATION - Timeline, communication and contiguity 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 longest 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.)

* Narrative explanation

Summative evaluation (MM/DD/YYYY): 06/28/2013-08/10/2014

* Description of the expected changes to the institutional and/or organizational practices in your institution.
Describe the substantial value and lasting impact that the project hopes to achieve.

Depending on the project's focus and its significance in the domain. The impact of the project could be measured in various ways, such as the following:

1. Improved student achievement: The project could increase student achievement, as evidenced by higher scores on standardized tests such as the Ohio Graduation Test, ACT, SAT, or Ohio Achievement Assessments.
2. Enhanced career readiness: The project could contribute to career readiness, with students gaining necessary skills and experiences that prepare them for college and/or career.
3. Increased utilization of resources: The project could lead to the utilization of a greater share of resources in the classroom, such as servers, wireless hotspots, and compatibility.
4. Savings in spending: The project could result in reductions in spending through shared services, which could be quantified and monitored over time.
5. Improved student and teacher satisfaction: The project could improve student and teacher satisfaction, as evidenced by higher levels of engagement and a positive impact on student achievement.
6. Longitudinal impact: The project could have a long-term impact, with benefits that extend beyond the end of the grant funding.

Discuss the project's ability to be replicated in other districts in Ohio.

The project's feasibility for replication in other districts in Ohio could be assessed through various means, including:

1. Curriculum alignment: The project's curriculum and resources are aligned with Ohio's educational standards and best practices.
2. Sustainability: The project is designed to be sustainable, with mechanisms in place to continue its impact after the grant funding ends.
3. Collaboration: The project fosters collaboration among stakeholders, which can be replicated in other districts.
4. Scalability: The project is scalable, with the potential to be adapted to different district sizes and resources.
5. Funding: The project has sustainable funding mechanisms, whether through grants, state funding, or local contributions.

The project's ability to be replicated in other districts in Ohio could be confirmed through a Yes or No judgment on the provided choice, with additional factors as evidence.
Instructional service platforms.

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* Erik Belcher, Superintendent, Fayette Local Schools, 400 E. Gamble Fayette, OH 43521 Email: ebelcher@fayettesch.org IRN: 047068 419-237-2573 October 25, 2013