

Budget

Fayette Local (047068) - Fulton County - 2014 - Straight A Fund - Rev 0 - Straight A Fund - Application Number (495)

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	133,431.00	0.00	133,431.00
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	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	133,431.00	0.00	133,431.00
Adjusted Allocation								0.00
Remaining								-133,431.00

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: Innovative Transportation Services

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.

School transportation as operated with little change since the first chain driven buses are grandparents used to ride. Innovative approaches can drastically reduce the cost of school transportation. This proposal to lay out innovation in transportation that will combine services and approve realistic its application.

420 3. Total Students Impacted:

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

First Name, last Name of contact for lead applicant: Erik Belcher

Organizational name of lead applicant: Fayette Local Schools

Unique Identifier (IRN/Fed Tax ID): 047068

Address of lead applicant: 400 E. Gamble Road Fayette, OH 43521

Phone Number of lead applicant: 419.237.2573

Email Address of lead applicant: elbelcher@fayettesch.org

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

First Name, last Name of contact for secondary applicant: na

Organizational name of secondary applicant: na

Unique Identifier (IRN/Fed Tax ID): na

Address of secondary applicant: na

Phone number of secondary applicant: na

Email address of secondary applicant: na

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.

na

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.

Transportation supervisor, superintendent, maintenance director, treasurer and bus drivers met to discuss innovative practices that may be used to reduce transportation costs while at the same time increase services. 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 3700 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 month to participate in discussions that impact rural students. Treasurer meets quarterly with regional treasurers to discuss the unique needs of rural education.

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). Transportation in public schools has been one dimensional for a generation. Buses are prescribed exact routes with no deviations in no connectedness to other transportation services available. Each route is maintained separately and serves as a distinct one-dimensional transportation service. This proposal seeks to integrate every aspect of public school services to maximize transportation while reducing the district expense. This proposal will fundamentally change the way schools do business. Bus routes can be adjusted through modern technology to maximize student pickup and delivery. Duplicate miles for retracing routes should be a thing of the past. Districts may also change their sports and special event schedules so that multiple events may utilize the same school bus for transportation. This may require a school hosting both boys and girls sporting events in the same evening, at the same or adjacent times. It is also possible to run consecutive schedules based upon adjusting the starting and ending times of the school day.

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.

To implement this innovative transportation project, it is imperative that all staff understand the need to minimize miles traveled and fuel expenses. School bus drivers will have an integral part of the

development of this project. Field trips may be combined serving several different classes so that drivers are not making multiple trips on multiple days to the same region. School transportation director will conference with high school principal and elementary school principal to coordinate dates of all field trips and special events. This coordination will not deter any event, but rather create a new sense of administrative reflection that allows school buildings to conduct business in an efficient manner. Athletic directors will convene to discuss ways in which sporting events may be combined with other sporting events, for school events, the efficient planning of all travel. District transportation supervisor will also utilize connections with other districts to discuss the benefits of multidistrict transportation. Often students from multiple schools attended the same event or educational locations. By combining districts in a transportation route schools can greatly decrease the costs of transportation without interrupting quality.

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.

2 - 84 Passenger T3FE 4004 2014 Blue Bird All American Busses - \$133,431.00

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

133,431.00 * 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.).

The expenses incurred in this proposal are \$177,908. The district is providing in-kind support \$44,477.00, or 25% of the total expenses associated with this grant proposal. The rationale for this grant is that through creative and innovative programming and bus routing districts have the opportunity to reduce costs while increasing quality of services.

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.

There are no recurring costs this grant proposal. Rather, this proposal will save the district, and any other district using this initiative, transportation costs that could readily be put into the classroom for instructional purposes. This proposal will ultimately cut costs. Therefore new or recurring costs will not be a consideration.

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

26,550.00 * 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.).

The savings anticipated are based upon district budget analysis. Creative routing schedules and shared transportation services will reduce annual mileage by 5000 miles for approximately 4000 miles per year. Data indicates the district buses average 13,000 miles per year. By increasing mileage from 5 miles per gallon on a 20-year-old bus 8 miles per gallon realized the purchase of a new bus will save the district 975 gallons or \$7800 per year on fuel costs. Maintenance costs average \$14,750 per year. This proposal will replace older buses, increase fuel efficiency, reduced maintenance costs, and promote shared transportation with other districts. These initiatives will provide a five-year payback on initial investment.

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.

Project will be self-sustaining as savings realized will be utilized for future bus purchases. This allows a district to perpetually replace buses on a cycle that optimizes reduce costs. It is essential that creative planning in constant communication between transportation supervisor and building administrators be built into their schedules. This proactive initiative will prevent districts from playing catch-up with busing needs. It is expected that this proposal will realize even greater savings in this initiative involves.

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): 10/18/2013

* Narrative explanation

Stakeholders involved in the transportation supervisor, superintendent, principal and treasurer. The initial barrier presented centered around changing how we do business. Drivers, teachers and staff will need to recognize these important cost-saving factors as they consider planning for the spring semester. October saw all stakeholders meet to discuss implementation timeline. Beginning of grant submission, all stakeholders will prepare communications to alert all staff to the intended changes brought about by this proposal. This communication is imperative that students and parents understand that quality of services will not be changed or diminished.

Implement (MM/DD/YYYY): 12/18/2013

* Narrative explanation

Drivers, teachers and parents will attend a combined meeting to communicate how these changes will improve student transportation services. Field trips and athletic events will be coordinated in a concentrated effort to minimize road time and miles driven. Principles will evaluate the changes taking place in reported superintendents logs. Barriers to this project's successful completion will be communicated by continual basis.

Summative evaluation (MM/DD/YYYY): 06/12/2014

* Narrative explanation

Mileage logs and hours logged will be evaluated based upon prior years travel history. Stakeholders will evaluate the intended results of this proposal compared to the actual data collected. Comparisons will be made in referenced in the final report. Drivers will be asked to provide additional information regarding the barriers presented how effectively changes were in meeting these new demands.

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

Organizationally this will not only reduce transportation costs including fuel spent, drivers time, maintenance and student write times but it will also measure the effectiveness of coordinating elementary, junior high and high school events as a means utilizing facility space. It is believed that this initiative will assist buildings in organizing their events and travel plans so that instructional time is increased.

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.

The spending reduction in the five-year fiscal forecast will provide substantial impact by placing more funds in classroom instruction. No known similar proposals have been identified in the research of this grant. The reason this proposal will be effective in that connects a very substantial part of the students day. Some students are on the bus three hours per day and spent six days in the classroom. By maximizing the efficiency of routes and reducing seat time for students that ratio may be reduced so that children are not spending one third of their educational hours traveling to and from school on the bus.

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

Yes

No

22. If so, how?

Replication is available for districts who want to fundamentally change the way they do business. No longer will school transportation be a last second thought and planning. Rather it will be an intragal aspect of the planning process. School districts typically compare previous years transportation costs and set a goal of maintaining or slightly increasing the costs. Is this proposal's intent that districts they be serious look at coordinating educational and transportation needs with special trips and athletic functions. This effort will result in substantial savings, bring fluidity to the schedule in place more of the students time in instruction.

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

Value of this proposal is that it will reduce the number of miles driven, fuel consumed and maintenance costs incurred. Data will be collected to verify the accuracy of this proposal. Miles driven will be collected on a monthly basis and compared to fuel consumption in the same time. A longitudinal study will be conducted analyzing the normal school bus routes, athletic events and special trips for student engagement activities. This study will compare the daily schedule of educational services as they connect to extra functions and athletic events. This proposal hopes to show that by creatively scheduling school functions rather than having transportation as a last-minute add-on will increase the synergy of school operations.

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.

Benchmarks in the school transportation proposal will be quantifiable and readily available for evaluation. Monthly data will be collected and compared to previous months data to ascertain the effectiveness of innovative transportation services. Fuel consumption will be measured. Miles driven will be collected. Maintenance costs will be catalogued. These comparisons will provide real on time data allowing all stakeholders to convene monthly and compare this grant initiative to previous years. Monthly goals will be aggregated into goals referenced for the entire grant period. The efficiency of operation of all districts travel and/or programs that require travel will be evaluated based upon their coordination.

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.

Transportation supervisor will collect short and long-term data to measure objectives. It is expected to see a 20% increase in efficiency resulting in lower costs. Fuel consumed, miles driven will be compared to the driver time on the road for all normally occurring events. This data will present a very clear picture of the effectiveness of this proposal. It is believed that by all parties connecting in creating fashion to streamline school transportation, district transportation expenses will decrease while at the same time providing higher-quality service. Grant proposal will also measure increased student time in the classroom with comparisons monthly and at the conclusion of this grant cycle. The additional data will be collected in the next five years to fully analyze and evaluate the objectives found in this proposal.

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