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Adjusted Allocation: 0.00
Remaining: -675,932.00
HCMSA has five key programs that we wish to restructure and bolster through the acquisition of Straight A Fund grant-making. All have been designed to aid the school to further increase our scores on state testing and add better opportunity for our young scholars. Our programs are designed to tackle these issues within our school. There has been successful implementation or pilots of all of the programs listed below: Program Description Read Underline Number IT! (RUN IT) Our Saturday intensive program to address reading comprehension and remediation for grades 3-8 learners. Students Triumphing Over Reading and Math (STORM) Our small-group or one-on-one assistance provided by Reading and Math intervention specialists. Tutoring Education for Successful Top Students (TEST) Our small-group or one-on-one assistance with state test-taking skills, reading, math, and intervention for grades 3-8.

Hamilton County Math & Science Academy (HCMSA) is a charter school in its fourteen year of operation. Our students are comprised of 97% African American, 2.5% multi-racial and 0.5% White (Non-Hispanic). The learners include economically disadvantaged students (45.8%) and students with disabilities (11.8%). The attendance rate is at a stellar 94.9%, and free/reduced lunches are provided for 90% of our student population. Several years ago, we moved into a much larger and newer facility in suburban Colerain Township that houses our 550 students in grades K-8 with an average class size of roughly 20. Our school community is strongly supported by interested and concerned parents, administrators, and teachers, who collaborate together for the enhancement of the student body. We have been fortunate to have active and supportive parents, which some 150 of them deliver their children each morning. We have a diverse faculty with respect to race, background, teaching experience, and age. For the 2011-2012 academic year, HCMSA was pleased to receive the Excellent with Distinction commendation from the State of Ohio.

HCMSA has a longstanding reputation for our academic rigor with consistently improving results. We reap the benefits of our math and literacy-driven supplemental programs, which need to be strengthened to increase our Common Core proficiency. Our compilation of programs for all ages grades K-8 are designed to reduce the need for in-class remediation and increases overall comprehension of the curriculum for our young scholars.

550 Total Students Impacted:

4. Lead applicant primary contact: - Provide the following information:
   First Name, last Name of contact for lead applicant: Dwan Moore, Principal & Superintendent
   Organizational name of lead applicant: Hamilton County Mathematics & Science Academy
   Unique Identifier (IRN/Fed Tax ID): 143602
   Address of lead applicant: 2675 Civic Center Dr, Cincinnati, OH 45231
   Phone Number of lead applicant: 513.728.8620
   Email Address of lead applicant: dwan-moore@cinci.rr.com

5. Secondary applicant contact: - Provide the following information, if applicable:
   First Name, last Name of contact for secondary applicant: N/A
   Unique Identifier (IRN/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 (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.

Upload Grant Application Attachment.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.

E) 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 consortium partnership

11. Describe the innovative project.

HCMSA has five key programs that we wish to restructure and bolster through the acquisition of Straight A Fund grant-making. All have been designed to aid the school to further increase our scores on state testing and add better opportunity for our young scholars. Our programs are designed to tackle these issues within our school. There has been successful implementation or pilots of all of the programs listed below: Program Description Read Underline Number IT! (RUN IT) Our Saturday intensive program to address reading comprehension and remediation for grades 3-8 learners. Students Triumphing Over Reading and Math (STORM) Our small-group or one-on-one assistance provided by Reading and Math intervention specialists. Tutoring Education for Successful Top Students (TEST) Our small-group or one-on-one assistance with state test-taking skills, reading, math, and intervention for grades 3-8.

We have created these programs as a way to reduce the amount of in-class remediation that is necessary for some of our students, especially those who transfer to us from less rigorous learning environments. We have made it our goal to boost the state scores for our bottom 20% of students, which inevitably requires more supplemental educational opportunities. We do not accept that because of the absence of opportunity or other developmental issues that each one of our students cannot achieve on every test or greatly improve their overall performance in their classroom. We have a long-standing history of our graduates excelling when they enter high school, which we have no recorded instances of any dropouts since we have been in operation. This is a record we are especially proud of, which is only bolstered with each students academic performance and test-taking prowess. These programs address the needs of students and bolsters our school culture as well.

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:
Nicole Dorsey
HCMSA - Parent (Contact)
2.530.858.8030
ndorsey@hcmsa.org

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): September 1, 2013

* Narrative explanation

Each year at HCMSA, we remain cognizant to the reality that we have to perform well on state-regulated testing, which is a large portion of our funding for the fiscal year. Thus, we have placed importance on providing supplemental academic benefits throughout the calendar year. This allows us to maintain academic rigor in-class and with our extracurricular offerings. Our teachers are responsible for participating in at least one extracurricular activity that adds to the academic or character development of our students to ensure participation. Program Implementation Period Read Underline Number ITI (RUN IT) Six Saturdays: Oct. 5, 12, 19 and Nov. Students Obtaining Academic Readiness (SOAR) Weekly: Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4-5pm. Student Teacher And Review (STAR) Daily: School Hours Students Triumphing Over Reading and Math (STORM) Daily: School Hours Tutoring Education for Successful Top Students (TEST)

Implement (MM/DD/YYYY): September 1, 2013

* Narrative explanation

HCMSA begins implementation of the programming from the beginning of the year, which we have done since the inception of our school. We do our best to utilize our time effectively to produce the best results for the kids in April. We have constructed social activities around the roll out of each program such as pep rallies, poster contests, and several other opportunities for students to embrace the programs in their entirety. We maintain the best way to reduce the anxiety around the test to be develop positive, non-threatening propaganda to adoption of the skills necessary to succeed. With the introduction of Straight A funding, we will be able to further scale our implementation period as well as the subsequent preparation period before the course work begins.

Summative evaluation (MM/DD/YYYY): September 1, 2013

* Narrative explanation

Since our programs begin at the beginning of the year, we have also begun collecting data from students and instructors. We develop individual education plans for our intervention students as well as supplemental education plans for some of the students who under performed on the OAA last year. Everything we complete has transferred from the brick-and-mortar composites to Progress book, which has a data mapping function that will we will be able to take advantage of. We have moved slowly towards being more research-based, which the Straight A funds are a great leap forward in the completion of that task.

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

With the acquisition of Straight A funding, we would be able to ensure that more of our classroom instructional time would go towards reaching the larger body of students. Through STORM, we would be able to increase our intervention and reduce our in-class remediation. Also, we would have the opportunity for increased funding from the DOE by raising student test scores. Lastly, we would be able to seek other sources of the funding as well once we can establish research-based documentation highlighting the success of our programs.

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.

HCMSA refuses to reach a level of complacency even though we have reach the state’s highest honor. With that in mind, we want to expand our supplemental education to be able to suit the needs of all of our students in the five years following the grant. If there are no new/recurring costs, 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.

0.00 * 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.)

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.

Based on projected growth of our school, we will need to increase our staff and support services, which is why it represents over one-third of the total cost. Furthermore, we included a 15% increase annually to accommodate this phenomena which has been the standard over the last half dozen years. Our projections would place our enrollment between 700-750 during the final year of funding. Thus, we feel it justifiable to increase the funding for instruction with the project.

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

675,932.00 * 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.).

These funds will be used to offset the cost of staff salary, supplies and resources, and software and technology equipment for both administrative and instructional purposes. The need for these funds has increased due to a decline in funding from Title I over the past few years. We have increased our foundation support funding, which has mitigated the impact to the execution of our programming. For the purposes of staff salary, we would use the additional funds to accommodate the teachers who participate in programs after-school and on the weekend. Furthermore, we would also be able to hire another full-time intervention specialist to work specifically with grades K-2. This would be a tremendous development for ensuring our literacy efforts. These costs will total $235,932.

With regards to supplies and resources, our budget includes the cost of customary needs such as printing services, stationery, etc. These costs are nearly $2,000 per program annually. Also, we are looking to purchase more Pearson and other complementary text to better serve students with the roll out of Common Core curriculum in our school. HCMSA would like to also purchase supplemental tools for students taking part in our program that will aid parents and/or guardians to continue to work with their student throughout the school year. Lastly, we are looking to complete the purchase of SMART? boards in all of our classrooms, which we need 12 at a cost of $2,500. Furthermore, we would like to update our infrastructure in which each instructor would have access to a personal computer as well as units for each support service area. These improvements would only be necessary in year one and year four of the proposed budget.

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

10,000.00 * 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.)

The expected savings for the project are realized with the amount of classroom instruction time that is decrease for remediation. With this increased instruction more of our students will have the ability to increase their overall state test scores and have a higher state passing rate. These savings over the life of the project will be used to offset some of the cost that will occur when we no longer receive Straight A funding.

HCMSA begins implementation of the programming from the beginning of the year, which we have done since the inception of our school. We do our best to utilize our time effectively to produce the best results for the kids in April. We have constructed social activities regularly around the roll out of each program such as pep rallies, poster contests, and several other opportunities for students to embrace the programs in their entirety. We maintain the best way to reduce the anxiety around the test to be develop positive, non-threatening propaganda to adoption of the skills necessary to succeed. With the introduction of Straight A funding, we will be able to further scale our implementation period as well as the subsequent preparation period before the course work begins.

HCMSA...
21. Is this project able to be replicated in other districts in Ohio?
- No

22. If so, how?
Our programs can easily be replicated in other districts as we expand them and increase the amount of and ability to track the progression of our students on state testing. Our model offers incentive to succeed and with the combination of a productive culture, we have constructed a paradigm that minimizes the fear of test. In combination with our curriculum, we teach Common Core with the belief that if they master the practices they will not focus on the magnitude of the test. With our programs being implemented as supplements to classroom instruction, there is the opportunity to add such programs into any district serving any level.

23. Describe the substantial value and lasting impact that the project hopes to achieve.
The value of our programs being expanded will be clear and have lasting effects on student achievement and teacher success in our school. With the prosperous implementation of these programs, we will see an increase in homework completion, test scores, and ease of transition into high school and beyond. Furthermore, we will also be able to utilize our partnerships with high-performing private high schools in the city more effectively by sending more of our top students into those institutions.

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 benchmarks related to our funding goals would be the increased productivity of our students, especially those in the bottom 20% of test-takers. We would track the development of student literacy based on teacher observation, in-class test scores, and literacy assessments i.e. Dibels Benchmark Assessment. These key performance indicators (KPI) would fall under the responsibility of our intervention specialists who already work with the majority of kids who struggle on state testing. Our model offers incentive to succeed and with the combination of a productive culture, we have constructed a paradigm that minimizes the fear of test. With our programs being implemented as supplements to classroom instruction, there is the opportunity to add such programs into any district serving any level.

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.

As the new standards under Common Core are being implemented in our school, we have been utilizing Pearson, who also construct the test, products to better enhance our instructional delivery. Thus, we are making sure we are placing our students in prime position to develop appropriate skills throughout the academic year. Nonetheless, with the implementation of these programs we further intensify our efforts to aid with the remediation that comes with new students transferring into our learning community. ProgressBook is the new software that we have chosen to implement, which will provide quantifiable evidence of the impact of each program through the use of their DataMap feature. It will allow for clear reporting to better conduct in-class instruction as well as increase efficiency of instructors and performance of our young scholars.

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-Dwan Moore-Superintendent Hamilton County Math & Science Academy, October 23, 2013