

Budget

Newark City (044453) - Licking County - 2014 - Straight A Fund - Rev 0 - Straight A Fund - Application Number (20)

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	10,000.00	7,955.00	0.00	0.00	17,955.00
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	10,000.00	7,955.00	0.00	0.00	17,955.00
Adjusted Allocation								0.00
Remaining								-17,955.00

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: Lincoln Community Garden

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.

The goal of the project is to engage at-risk students in the development of a community garden on property currently owned by the Newark City School District. As part of a district initiative the high school started last year, classes which will develop the garden, seek to incorporate academic content standards into classes using a cross-curricular approach and project-based learning. The students will also be expected to engage and interact with neighbors of the garden in order to develop a relationship with the community.

260 3. Total Students Impacted:

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

First Name, last Name of contact for lead applicant: Mike McNicol

Organizational name of lead applicant: Newark High School

Unique Identifier (IRN/Fed Tax ID): 027011

Address of lead applicant: 314 Granville Street

Phone Number of lead applicant: 740-670-7400

Email Address of lead applicant: mmmcnicol@laca.org

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

First Name, last Name of contact for secondary applicant: Marc Montella

Organizational name of secondary applicant: Newark High School

Unique Identifier (IRN/Fed Tax ID): 027011

Address of secondary applicant: 314 Granville Street

Phone number of secondary applicant: 740-670-7400

Email address of secondary applicant: mmmontella@laca.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 (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.

[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.

The core group of teachers responsible for implementing the grant are composed of an English teacher, Government teacher, Linkage Coordinator, two credit recovery teachers and a CBI teacher. Over the course of the past year, the teachers began working cooperatively in order to develop multi-disciplinary units using a project-based learning approach. Last year, an outdoor garden was created at Newark High School using local grant money with the assistance of the Licking County Extension Office and The Licking County Master Gardeners.

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.

Historically, Newark High School has maintained a graduation rate that has hovered around 70%, until this past year when it increased to 85.6%. In an effort to increase the graduation rate, the school district developed a School Within a School Setting for students who were at-risk of not graduating. Essentially, students take their English class in a block setting for a whole year, which would allow them to be in the classroom for approximately 90 minutes. This would also be the case for their Social Studies classes. During this extended period of time, a project-based learning approach was implemented with a focus on using technology such as iPads and MacBooks. Due to the unique nature of the classroom, outside resources were also able to be implemented, such as integrating teachers outside of the specific curricular area in which the students were enrolled, in order to cover academic content standards outside of the English and Social Studies. The funding would allow the teachers and students the ability to develop a community garden on Newark City Schools' property where a torn down middle school used to exist. The garden would be a project that would serve as a catalyst for student achievement by allowing students to see the real world relationship between academic content standards and their own lives. The project would also allow the staff to implement service learning opportunities with the students as the food grown in the garden would be donated to local food banks along with engaging the local neighborhood to help care and maintain the garden. Lastly, the neighbors would also have the opportunity to farm their own plots of land for their own benefit.

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.

The CCIP goal of Improved Student Achievement includes such strategies as curriculum alignment with the Ohio Graduation Test, dropout prevention and credit recovery using the online content management system PLATO. The development and implementation of a community garden will allow the students to develop a level of personal involvement with their school and local community. Additionally, many of the students who will be involved in its development are students who have struggled academically and socially and who are a major focus of the district's improvement plan. This is a real life situation where the students can benefit their local community while at the same time be successful academically.

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.

The only ongoing cost to this project is transportation to the site. Currently all field trips within the county are paid for at district expense. There is no expected change to the five year forecast due to the implementation of this project. The goal of the project is to complete a self-sustaining community garden on green space that was once a Newark City Schools middle school. As part of the garden, there will be three main components as described below. a.) Students will use the greenhouse to start growing plants and vegetables from seeds that may then be transplanted into the raised bed gardens. b.) Students will create a hoop structure style green house that can be used to grow plants and vegetables outdoors while lengthening the growing year due to their ability to use passive solar energy. c.) The students will also develop a community garden that is used to teach academic content standards related to Government, World History, English and Science. They will be expected to engage the local community so that they become involved in the project by farming their own plots of land. The students will also grow food that benefits the local food banks along with the school. Currently, Newark High School has a Multi-Handicap class that runs a full-fledged bakery out of the school during the school day. Herbs and vegetables would be grown by students that would also benefit the individuals in that class. The expected new/recurring costs appear to be minimal. The school district is committed to providing transportation as needed for students so that they can work in the garden during the school hours. There will also be no increase in staffing levels at the high school as the program will be run by teachers as part of the current curriculum. The project is self-sustaining because once it is created; it is maintained with current supplies and volunteer work. The project's costs go down significantly once it is initially started because no further money or supplies would be needed to maintain the gardens. Garden maintenance will develop through volunteer dedication and with current supplies. The only foreseeable cost in the future would be to replace worn or broken garden supplies, but that is not an immediate cost or a planned expense.

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

17,955.00 * 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, RtT 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 goal of the project is to complete a self-sustaining community garden on green space that was once a Newark City Schools middle school. As part of the garden, there will be three main components as described below. a.) Students will use the greenhouse to start growing plants and vegetables from seeds that may then be transplanted into the raised bed gardens. b.) Students will create a hoop structure style green house that can be used to grow plants and vegetables outdoors while lengthening the growing year due to their ability to use passive solar energy. c.) The students will also develop a community garden that is used to teach academic content standards related to Government, World History, English and Science. They will be expected to engage the local community so that they become involved in the project by farming their own plots of land. The students will also grow food that benefits the local food banks along with the school. Currently, Newark High School has a Multi-Handicap class that runs a full-fledged bakery out of the school during the school day. Herbs and vegetables would be grown by students that would also benefit the individuals in that class.

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.

The expected new/recurring costs appear to be minimal. The school district is committed to providing transportation as needed for students so that they can work in the garden during the school hours. There will also be no increase in staffing levels at the high school as the program will be run by teachers as part of the current curriculum.

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.)

It is not expected that the community garden will result in a specific expected savings.

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 project is self-sustaining because once it is created; it is maintained with current supplies and volunteer work. The project's costs go down significantly once it is initially started because no further money or supplies would be needed to maintain the gardens. Garden maintenance will develop through volunteer dedication and with current supplies. The only foreseeable cost in the future would be to replace worn or broken garden supplies, but that is not an immediate cost or a planned expense.

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/October 2013

* Narrative explanation

Students meet with community members at their community garden sites. Community members shared their experiences as to how to develop, maintain, and sustain a community garden. Students also heard a presentation of a community garden representative about the benefits and hard work of running a community garden. Community members have met with staff about starting a garden and collaborating with Newark City Schools in this effort. This plan is to help students increase student achievement through multi-curriculum efforts. Students will reflect in written assignments about their experience working with others to create a community garden. This will be a more hands-on approach to their learning and help engage the students further in classroom.

Implement (MM/DD/YYYY): October-May 2013-2014

* Narrative explanation

The following lists what students, staff, and community members will collaboratively work on over the course of the school year to make this garden a success. ? Students have already participated in a science lab to test the soil on the property chosen for Newark City Schools' community garden. Students got samples of soil from all over the property and tested the soil for nutrients needed to grow a garden. ? Students, staff, and community members will help secure a fence around the perimeter of the space. ? A shed with gardening tools, water hoses, wheelbarrows will be acquired ? Creation of compost pile for re-fertilizing the garden in upcoming seasons ? Establishing good soil to get the garden started, whether deciding that soil additives or raised beds be the best option for growing ? Making raised garden beds if need be and creating sections of the garden for different schools within the district to create their gardens and community members to have a plot of their own. ? Maintain the garden with water (supply from city, hopefully), weeding, planting, and clearing as the seasons change ? Planting of flowers that bring in the right insect population to benefit the garden. ? Creating artwork and special areas for representation in the garden such as benches, tree planting, picnic tables, etc. to make the garden have a community atmosphere Community members, staff members, parents, and students are encouraged to participate in the garden project together as it progresses. Communication between staff, students, and community members involved is critical in that the shared knowledge and work will be vital in a successful and sustainable garden.

Summative evaluation (MM/DD/YYYY): May 2014 and beyond

* Narrative explanation

The garden will successfully produce vegetables and fruit that can be giving back to the workers of the garden and those in need of fresh food. Food can be donated to food pantries and community programs that provide food for people of need. Students will continue to maintain, analyze, and make changes to the garden as needed. Students will reflect on the difficulties and successes throughout the process to better their achievement in school.

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

Students have already received lectures, labs, articles with responses, and created their own garden at Newark High School in the past school year and up to this point during this school year. Students have learned about food deserts, eating healthier, the food production in the United States, the difference between processed and natural foods, how to grow and maintain a garden. Students will continue to learn about proper soil and what is needed to make soil nutrient-rich for successful growth of produce. In our classroom, we will take regular trips to the garden to learn about planting, weeding, watering, and caring for the plants in our community garden. Students will create partnerships with community members, staff from Newark City Schools, and with each other through the creation of this garden.

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.

Students will learn how to sustain a garden while inherently understanding the importance of cooperating with others to complete something that benefits the community. Students will gain a sense of pride in their work. Students have already shown hard work with the creation of their own garden at the high school in which they created a fence, planted a garden, and built raised beds.

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

Yes

No

22. If so, how?

Other schools districts with land, district administrative support, community interest, and willing staff members would be able to implement this project. To create a community garden there must be a piece of land where the community members would be able to work. There is a great deal of planning that goes into starting a community garden, thus, the school staff along with the students must be willing to research and plan for the garden. Also, the district administrative staff has to be supportive of what the teachers and students are planning. The community members must also be involved in the planning since they are going to be planting in the garden. This is why part of our project involves an advisory board consisting of students, teachers, and community members. This will help provide oversight for the entire project. This model will help ensure fidelity in the project and makes it easy to replicate in other districts.

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

The Lincoln Community Garden will have a lasting impact on both students and community members. The students will learn to collaborate with their peers along with people throughout the community. They will do this through planning, advertising, and working in the garden. They will also learn about teamwork. Whether they are on the student-led advisory board or working a plot of land they will have to work together to make this project successful. The students will also learn communication skills. They will have to speak to community members who are interested. The students will also learn gardening skills that they will be able to use in future years. This will also have a lasting impact on the community. The Lincoln Community Garden will bring a sense of pride amongst the people working there. This will, in turn, strengthen the community overall. As with other community gardens some of the yield will be donated directly back to the community for those in need of healthy food options. The community garden will continue each year as interest provides.

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 benchmark that aligns with our goal is student achievement. Our students will develop a better understanding of the Next Generation Science Standards through gardening. Also, they will forge meaningful relationships with community members who participate in the garden. We anticipate the garden being successful and being able to donate a large portion of the harvest to local food pantries. Through previous experience we have learned that many of the students do not have a great deal of knowledge about gardening, but become interested once exposed. We anticipate that many of the students will develop gardening skills that will last them a lifetime.

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.

When evaluating our project we will be looking at student achievement incrementally (6 months, 12 months, eventual graduation). This will include short term goals of looking at students who are behind on credits and tracking their progress toward graduation. The tracking of credit deficient students will be done after each semester. Therefore, the data collecting of credits begins as a short-term objective, however, if the students are deficient from 9th grade this turns into a long-term collection. Data will also be collected as to how the students are engaged within the school community. When the student enters the program they will complete a school engagement inventory survey. As they proceed through the program they will continue to complete the inventory survey, thus, we will track their school engagement. We are of the belief that the more school engagement that exists, the better the chance of graduation. We will also be measuring how the students are engaged within the Newark community. This will be done by surveying what organizations they are volunteering with outside of school along with participation in the Lincoln Community Garden. We will track this information and measure the changes every six months. Community involvement in the garden will also be measured. Each year we will track the number of plots reserved. The more community involvement the more we can partner our students with people working in the garden to help them make lasting relationships with the community.

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. Melinda Vaughn, Director, Newark City School, Newark, ohio 10-23-2013