## Budget

Northwestern Local (050575) - Wayne County - 2014 - Straight A Fund - Rev 0 - Straight A Fund - Application Number (343)

**U.S.A.S. Fund #:**

**Plus/Minus Sheet (opens new window)**

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### Adjusted Allocation

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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: Northwestern Systemic STEM Grant

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 K-12 Programs of Excellence Systemic STEM Grant seeks to improve student achievement through expansion of our current very successful STEM programs. Northwestern has successfully implemented the following STEM programs: Elementary - LEGO Camp; Middle School - Flight & Space, Robotics, Pre-Engineering, Medical Interventions; High School: 3 nationally accredited PLTW (Project Lead the Way) Engineering courses, 3 nationally accredited PLTW Engineering courses, Robotics Club - all of which have led to an increase of district incoming open enrollment of students from 64 students 8 years ago to 198 students this current year and an increase from 0 to 10 dual college credit programs and several articulation agreements with area colleges and universities. At this time we wish to increase our role as a magnet STEM school by expanding these programs systematically into the elementary PLTW STEM courses and programs as well as improve and expand the quality and number of programs in our middle school and high school to include a Robotics Class, Sustainable alternative energies courses, and dual college credit courses available on campus and virtually - which this grant will allow us to build the capacity to do through infrastructure, equipment, and Chromebooks - which we will sustain through never again purchasing textbooks in grades 6-12, not employing additional staff, but instead shifting their responsibilities, and we will receive weighted funding (@$500 per student per HS STEM Course) and revenue from additional incoming open enrollment students (currently $5,740 per additional student) applying to enter our programs and schools.

3. Project Type: New

4. Lead applicant primary contact: - Provide the following information:
   - First Name, Last Name of contact for lead applicant: Jeffrey N. Layton
   - Organizational name of lead applicant: Northwestern Schools
   - Unique Identifier (IRN/Fed Tax ID): 050575
   - Address of lead applicant: 7571 North Elyria Rd. West Salem, OH 44287
   - Phone Number of lead applicant: 419-846-3151
   - Email Address of lead applicant: nrw_layton@tcsna.net

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 (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.

Northwestern is the sole school district participating in this grant proposal. However, we have ongoing partnerships with the following organizations with which we have and continue working collaboratively.

Northwestern has existing partnerships with the following organizations, which we will strengthen and expand through this K-12 Programs of Excellence Systemic STEM Grant: The University of Akron Wayne College and The University of Akron, Ashland University, North Central State College, The University of Findlay, Sinclair College, LuK USA, Smith Dairy, Buehler's, G&S Titanium, Stanley Gault, Society of Manufacturing Engineers Education Foundation, Tri-County ESC, Wayne County Family and Children First Council, BioOhio, and the Bioscience Consortium of Northeast Ohio, HSTW (High Schools that Work the Ohio Network), SREB (Southern Regional Education Board), and The Akron Regional STEM network.

7. Partnership and consortia agreements and letters of support: - (Click on the link below to upload necessary documents).

* 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.

Over the past 8 years Northwestern has received the following grant awards, which we have successfully managed and implemented with sustainability in mind, as well as alignment toward our mission of "Preparing our students today for tomorrow's opportunities." Our innovative efforts continue as we continue transformation of Northwestern Schools into a magnet STEM/innovation district for students throughout our Wayne, Ashland, Medina, Summit, West Holmes County region. Our administrative team of Curriculum Coordinator, Elementary School Principal, Middle School Principal, High School Principal, and Superintendent have worked together in our roles at Northwestern Schools for over 8 years together. Northwestern has been blessed to have received several grants that have supported our pursuit of several effective and ongoing school initiatives that has changed our culture from a basic, rural, good school to a magnet STEM school of innovation. We know need to further improve and expand our programs both at the elementary level and in the direction of online availability, early college, and entrepreneurship in order to meet the demands of regional students and prepare our students for 21st Century Skills - a three-year $270,000 Character Education Grant 2006-20010 - An $82,000 K-12 STEM Grant from Ohio Board of Regents in 2009 - Ohio STEM "Project Lead the Way" Grant funding of over $50,000 over a three-year period - More than 8 consecutive continuous $8,000 to $12,000 HSTW Grants from 2005 to current - $28,000 CORE Curriculum Grant in 2006 - $10,000 MS-HE Transitions Grant in 2007 - K-8 STEM Grant of $24,000 from Ohio Board of Regents in 2010 - Over $50,000 in area business contributions over the past 8 years in support of our High School STEM PLTW programs and Robotics Club - Over $20,000 in school bus retrofit program in 2011 - numerous additional grants of $500-$6,000 (over $150,000 in grants over the past 8 years) from numerous smaller foundations and entities Incl. Monsanto, Wayne County Foundation, Martha Holden Jennings, Wal-Mart, Best Buy, Wettmer Trust, etc. - we have also participated in numerous consortium grant programs in which we have collaborated for hundreds of thousands of dollars over the past 8 years.

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 consortium partnership

11. Describe the innovative project.

Over the past 8 years Northwestern has successfully managed and implemented programs with sustainability in mind, as well as alignment toward our mission of "Preparing our students today for tomorrow's opportunities." Our innovative efforts continue as we continue transformation of Northwestern Schools into a magnet STEM/innovation district for students throughout our Wayen, Ashland,
**D) IMPLEMENTATION**

will be made that are at least equal to the amount of new/recurring costs detailed above.

12. Describe how it will meet the goal(s) selected above.

* 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.

13. Financial Documentation

- Upload the Straight A Financial Impact Template forecasting the expected changes to the five-year forecast. Include a brief explanation of how this project will advance the improvement plan.

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

- Total project cost

15. What new/recurring costs of your innovative project will continue once the grant has expired? If there are none new/recurring costs, please explain why.

- Specific amount of expected savings (annual)

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

- Specific amount of expected savings (annual)

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.

**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 forecast for the consortia or partnership.

- c. If subsection (b) is not applicable, please explain why, in addition to how the project will demonstrate sustainability and impact.

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

15. What new/recurring costs of your innovative project will continue once the grant has expired? If there are none new/recurring costs, please explain why.

- Specific amount of expected savings (annual)

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

- Specific amount of expected savings (annual)

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.

**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 an action 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 beneficiaries, as well as educational personnel in the affected entities.)
19. Describe the expected changes to the instructional and/or organizational practices in your institution.

| Classroom sizes will become less of a factor - higher level, project, based, discovery learning will be the norm - teacher as facilitator and the curricular expert who finds his/her own resources to teach students inventively without a set of textbooks - increased cross-content area instruction - increased technical reading and writing increased overall rigor - using resourcefulness, communicating, collaborating are the norm - more engaging, purpose-driven, discovery learning - promoting entrepreneurship |

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.

We implemented summer STEM programs at the ES level successfully with volunteers and some teacher cost. We implemented 3 HS Engineering courses and 3 HS Biomedical courses with no additional costs - all which were initiated 7 years ago. Our open enrollment and magnetism has grown our college scholarships for graduates has grown markedly our college-bound student population has increased from 56% 8 years ago to over 75% each of the past three years this can be shared and replicated at other schools - it must be viewed systematically and a plan developed over a period of time to implement and a sustainability plan developed prior to beginning.

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

| Yes | No |

22. If so, how?

Most certainly. We have had a few area schools just beginning their initial STEM course in the last year or two.

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

Higher standards increased rigor applied, purposeful, engaging learning development of 21st century skills workforce skills in collaboration, communication, facilitation, presentation common core.

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.

| Improved ACT scores - continued increased in scholarships for college - student satisfaction surveys post-graduation - Enrollment increase of 218 additional students - more capable writing skills - increased college success - increased lexicon reading and writing ability of students |

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.

Student Assessments - increased performance on student assessments at all levels - student career choices - student satisfaction surveys Outcomes - a significant increase of incoming open enrollment students from surrounding school districts - an increase of college-bound students - an increase in senior scholarship dollars for college - increased ACT scores - continued increases in scholarships for college and college enrollment - student satisfaction surveys post-graduation - enrollment increase of 218 additional students - more capable writing skills - increased college success - increased lexicon reading and writing ability of students.

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.