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Adjusted Allocation: 0.00

Remaining: -355,260.16
The project also includes a budget to
This team of teachers who have worked on this grant proposal will
This project incorporates those needs by purchasing 30 headsets for the students with learning disabilities, those
Lastly, this project
To ensure the iPads are securely located when not in use
By having enough iPads for an entire classroom to use, the teachers can integrate technology into their lesson plans, the students' assessments along with
the students in their learning.
450 Total Students Impacted:

4. Lead applicant primary contact: - Provide the following information:
First Name, last Name of contact for lead applicant: Danielle Kramer
Organizational name of lead applicant: Ross Middle School
Unique Identifier (RN/Fed Tax ID) [REDACTED]
Address of lead applicant: 3425 Hamilton Cleves Road, Hamilton, OH 45013
Phone Number of lead applicant: 513-863-1251
Email Address of lead applicant: Danielle.Kramer@rossrams.com

5. Secondary applicant contact: - Provide the following information, if applicable:
First Name, last Name of contact for secondary applicant: Sarah Kiefer
Organizational name of secondary applicant: Ross Middle School
Unique Identifier (RN/Fed Tax ID) [REDACTED]
Address of secondary applicant: 3425 Hamilton Cleves Road, Hamilton, OH 45013
Phone number of secondary applicant: 513-863-1251
Email address of secondary applicant: Sarah.Kiefer@rossrams.com

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.

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 team responsible for the implementation of this project consists of five teachers who collaboratively work together teaching 7th and 8th grade students. The teachers' combined years of experience exceed seventy years and four of the teachers have earned a minimum of a Masters Degree and the fifth is currently working towards his. The teachers effectively work together sharing information and providing assistance to each other. Two of the teachers have spent the last two years working on an Ohio's Formative Assessment Middle School Project for the English curriculum. Another teacher has taught several technology classes in the district during which she shares new technology ideas and how to implement them in the classroom. The teachers on this team effectively communicate with one another. They will be able to work together to order the equipment, set up the technology, and collaborate and share information and ideas. The team of teachers who have worked on this grant proposal will assist the other 7th and 8th grade teachers at Ross Middle School with implementing the iPads into the classroom by helping them set up the iPads, sharing information obtained from the technology seminar and sharing lesson plan ideas.

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 research-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.

This project allows for technology to be used more often in the classroom by both the teachers and students. This project will address the apathy students are experiencing in the classroom since the younger generations have embraced technology in their daily lives. Moreover, this project will address the desire that teachers have to implement a more dynamic learning environment. Lastly, this project will utilize technology to meet the needs of special education students in the classroom. This project will roll out in all 7th and 8th grade students and teachers at Ross Middle School having access to a cart of iPads in their classroom that they can use for instruction, teaching, and learning. The project involves purchasing 480 iPads: 15 teachers will have an iPad for their use to develop dynamic lesson plans and 15 classrooms will have 30 iPads for the students' use. Each of the 15 carts needs one iPad as a central host that all the iPads sync to. To ensure the iPads are securely located when not in use and have a permanent location this project includes the cost to purchase a cart to hold the iPads along with purchasing OtterBox Reflex protective cases for the iPads. The project also includes a budget to have the lead team of teachers attend a workshop so they can learn more ways to incorporate the use of iPads in the classroom. This project also includes the recognition that there are special needs students who would benefit from technology in the classroom, but in a different way. This project incorporates those needs by purchasing 30 headsets for the students with learning disabilities; those students will be able to have their needs met in the classroom, whether it is repeated listening, increased audio for hearing the material or simply having the material read aloud for them. In addition, the purchase of 30 headsets will allow a teacher to use the headsets in the entire classroom, should the need arise. The technology needs of the students is also meet with this project by purchasing 3 new computers for use in one classroom, so the special education students who need a physical keyboard or a larger screen, can have access to the lesson plan information in a way that accommodates their needs. Lastly, the project requires the purchasing of select apps for the students to use on their iPads to assist them in learning and to further the incorporation of technology in the learning process.

*2. 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.

This project will meet the goals of student achievement and utilization of a greater share of resources in the classroom in a variety of ways. By allowing students to utilize iPads, the students will be exposed to resources that will enhance their learning by providing more current and relevant information, graphics, and videos. Students today are raised with technology and use technology every day in their lives. By having enough iPads for an entire classroom to use, the teachers can integrate technology into their lesson plans, the students' assessments along with assisting the students in their learning.
By harnessing the students' willingness to embrace and use technology, the students will be more interested learning. This project will also benefit the students by providing them with practice opportunities to develop computer literacy skills for critical online assessments including future computerized versions for the Common Core. The world has rapidly become technology-based and some students do not have access to technology at home. This project will give students an opportunity to gain familiarity and experience with technology that they can then use in their education and everyday life. This exciting new technology will be made that are at least equal to the amount of new/recurring costs detailed above.

17. C) SUSTAINABILITY

Once the start of the iPad project, the students will be able to log into the iPads in the classroom, where they will have access to quality educational applications, games, and discourses. The teachers will add the iPads to their class curriculum and their lesson plans will be modified to include iPads use for the fall semester, should this project receive funding. The teachers will be able to connect their iPad to the Eno board in the classroom to project materials to the students. There will be greater share of resources in the classroom reducing the spending the school incurs on photocopying costs (paper, toner, machine wear and tear) and in addition to a reduction of costs for physical books and reading material. There are many resources available for free on the Internet, in an app or educational game. There is more instructional time for learning when a teacher does not have to pass out papers, collect papers or have the students grade papers.

16. Are there expected savings that will continue once the grant has expired? (If yes, there are expected savings, please explain why.

Yes, there are expected savings that will result from this project being implemented.

This project includes a budget to purchase educational appropriate apps and games in an amount of $3,000.00. Therefore, this project includes a budget to purchase educational appropriate apps and games in an amount of $3,000.00. Each app or game can be sync to 5 different devices. This amount will be calculated for the students. In order to accommodate the needs of the students, a total of 30 headphone will be purchased. These headphones will be shared among the students and their teachers. Each headphone will cost $5.00 to purchase, so the total headphone cost is $150.00. To purchase the new computers for use in one classroom, three 27-inch iMacs would be purchased. The iMacs would include a SuperDrive so DVDs could be played, the Pages, Numbers and Keynote software would be included and the AppleCare Protection Plan would be purchased as well. Each iMac will cost $1,995.97 for a total of $5,987.91.

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)

There would be no new/recurring costs with this project. This project requires initial costs for the equipment, but there should not be any new/recurring costs. Once all of the items are purchased (including apps/educational games/etc.) the teachers receive some additional training, the project simply requires teachers to create dynamic lesson plans and to incorporate the use of technology in their classroom, all of which does not cost additional money.

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

353,260.16 * Total project cost

To have the teachers learn about all of the opportunities that having iPads in the classroom presents, including what apps or games are educationally beneficial, the teachers would attend a workshop devoted to technology in the classroom, which would cost $800.00. In order to have apps and games to assist the students in learning and that the teachers could incorporate, they must be purchased. Therefore, this project includes a budget to purchase educational appropriate apps and games in an amount of $3,000.00. Each app or game can be sync to 5 different devices. This amount will be calculated for the students. In order to accommodate the needs of the students, a total of 30 headphone will be purchased. These headphones will be shared among the students and their teachers. Each headphone will cost $5.00 to purchase, so the total headphone cost is $150.00. To purchase the new computers for use in one classroom, three 27-inch iMacs would be purchased. The iMacs would include a SuperDrive so DVDs could be played, the Pages, Numbers and Keynote software would be included and the AppleCare Protection Plan would be purchased as well. Each iMac will cost $1,995.97 for a total of $5,987.91.

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.

Explain why, in addition to how the project will demonstrate sustainability and impact. This project is sustainable because the students this year and students in following years will use these iPads for many years to enhance their education. The project does not require additional financial resources to continue past the first 6 months. All of the costs associated with this project are one-time startup costs. The iPads will be able to be used for many years with the exception that they will last for many years. Also, the iPads should last for years by protecting them in OtterBox Reflex cases. The carts are similarly a one-time cost. Overall, the project is sustainable because the students who are the 7th and 8th grade next fall will be able to use the iPads and the teachers will have learned how to implement the technology in their lesson plans and in the classroom. This team of teachers is committed to having technology in the classroom and their lesson plans will be modified to include iPads use for the fall semester, should this project receive funding.

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 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

This team of teachers will meet on January 7, 2014 to discuss the project and moving forward in the semester using technology in the classroom. The teachers will discuss at this planning meeting who will be responsible for ordering the physical equipment. The team will discuss who will contact with the Treasurer to ensure the purchases are properly ordered and paid for with grant monies. The team will discuss handing the equipment once it arrives at the school, including the security of the equipment until such time as it is ready for students' use. Lastly, the team will decide what day of the Educational Technology Conference each teacher wants to attend. The team will plan on who is coordinating the registration for the conference.

Implement (MM/DD/YYYY): 01/08/2014

*Narrative explanation

The teachers would register for one day of the Educational Technology Conference, Learning in Ohio seminar by January 17, 2014. Possible problems the team might experience would be delays in shipping, items being backed log or having to order the same item from multiple vendors to obtain the desired number. Another possible problem is depletion of supply for the iPad with Retina display. Therefore, this project includes a budget to purchase educational appropriate apps and games in an amount of $3,000.00. Each app or game can be sync to 5 different devices. This amount will be calculated for the students. In order to accommodate the needs of the students, a total of 30 headphone will be purchased. These headphones will be shared among the students and their teachers. Each headphone will cost $5.00 to purchase, so the total headphone cost is $150.00. To purchase the new computers for use in one classroom, three 27-inch iMacs would be purchased. The iMacs would include a SuperDrive so DVDs could be played, the Pages, Numbers and Keynote software would be included and the AppleCare Protection Plan would be purchased as well. Each iMac will cost $1,995.97 for a total of $5,987.91.

* Narrative explanation

This project requires initial costs for the equipment, but there should not be any new/recurring costs. Once all of the items are purchased (including apps/educational games/etc.) the teachers receive some additional training, the project simply requires teachers to create dynamic lesson plans and to incorporate the use of technology in their classroom, all of which does not cost additional money.

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**E) SUBSTANTIAL IMPACT AND LASTING VALUE - Impact, evaluation and replication**

20. Describe the rationale, research or past support that targets the impact of the project on student achievement, spending reduction in the five-year fiscal forecast or utilization of a greater share of resources in the classroom.

There is research to support this project thesis that having more technology in the classroom improves student achievement and allows for a greater utilization of resources to occur in the classroom. While the research focuses on laptops for the students, the difference between a laptop and an iPad should be considered minimal, especially in light of the fact that the students can view or read websites, blogs or videos on either a laptop or iPad. In 2011, CompTIA released the results of a new study that found technology was improving classroom performance by (See [http://www.eschoolnews.com/2013/08/28/saving-money-improving-efficiency-with-technology/](http://www.eschoolnews.com/2013/08/28/saving-money-improving-efficiency-with-technology/)) These articles and research are just a small sample of the information that shows technology has a positive impact on students, on everything from their attitude, their attendance, to their testing scores. This project does just that.

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

**YES**

22. If so, how?

any district in Ohio can implement this project. The time and effort it would take would be very minimal. A school district could have iPads in a classroom within a few weeks, if the budget allowed for such expenditure. A school district could, if the money was there, implement a smaller version of this project by purchasing iPads and a cart for each grade or team within a grade level and have the teachers rotate the carts within their classrooms. This key finding comes from an article published in the US News.

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

The substantial value and lasting impact this project would have would be seen by the change in the students’ attitude and demeanor when it comes to learning. The impact from this project would be to excite our students about learning, expose them to new and creative ways of learning and to take ownership of their education. The best quantifiable measure of the grant’s outcome would be seeing the students using the iPads as opposed to old lesson plans that were stagnant. The first goal is for 80% of the involved teachers to rate the new lesson plans that incorporate technology as improved over the previous lesson plan, as measured by the Teacher Lesson Plan Self-Assessment. This goal will be tracked and measured by having teachers place copies of their lesson plans in a binder with a rating scale attached to it. A second goal is for 100% of the teachers to incorporate technology into their lesson plans, as measured by the Teacher Lesson Plan Self-Assessment. This goal will be measured by having the teachers utilizing their cart and providing a copy of their lesson plans which will demonstrate how the teacher incorporated technology in her lesson plans. A third goal is for 95% of the students to complete their MAP testing in March, 2014 using the iPads. The teachers will then use data from the test to guide their instruction to the students for the remainder of the school year. This goal will be measured by having teachers evaluate the data from MAP testing and develop lessons to enhance student growth. The information learned from this project, both subjectively and objectively, will be shared with other school districts by having the information available to the educators.

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.

This project does not have a goal of spending reduction in the five-year forecast.

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.

The plan to evaluate whether the project met its goals is by having objective, mathematically derived analysis of the iPads' use. The team will perform an analysis on their new lesson plans that include the students using the iPads as opposed to old lesson plans that were stagnant. The first goal is for 80% of the involved teachers to rate the new lesson plans that incorporate technology as improved over the previous lesson plan, as measured by the Teacher Lesson Plan Self-Assessment. This goal will be tracked and measured by having teachers place copies of their lesson plans in a binder with a rating scale attached to it. A second goal is for 100% of the teachers to incorporate technology into their lesson plans, as measured by the Teacher Lesson Plan Self-Assessment. This goal will be measured by having the teachers utilizing their cart and providing a copy of their lesson plans which will demonstrate how the teacher incorporated technology in her lesson plans. A third goal is for 95% of the students to complete their MAP testing in March, 2014 using the iPads. The teachers will then use data from the test to guide their instruction to the students for the remainder of the school year. This goal will be measured by having teachers evaluate the data from MAP testing and develop lessons to enhance student growth. The information learned from this project, both subjectively and objectively, will be shared with other school districts by having the information available to the educators.

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
Kathy DiBlasi, Director of Curriculum Ross Local School District October 22, 2013