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Adjusted Allocation: 0.00
Remaining: -122,650.00
Executive summary: Provide an executive summary of your project proposal and which goal(s) in question II you seek to achieve. Please limit your responses to no more than three sentences.

To prepare our students for the 21st century and to maintain a high level of academic achievement, Russia Local School will implement a technology project to expose students in grades K-12 with multiple technology devices, applications, and programs. The project will not only increase student learning and achievement, but it will also assist the district by reducing annual expenditures and efficiently providing the highest level of education for our students.

467 3. Total Students Impacted:

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

First Name, last Name of contact for lead applicant: Steve, Rose
Organizational name of lead applicant: Russia Local School
Unique Identifier (RIN/Fed Tax ID): 049817
Address of lead applicant: 100 School Street Russia Ohio 45363
Phone Number of lead applicant: 937-526-3156
Email Address of lead applicant: srose@russiaschool.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 (RIN/Fed Tax ID): NA
Address of secondary applicant: NA
Phone number of secondary applicant: NA
Email address of secondary applicant: 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.

The implementation process will involve the use of multiple administrators, specialists, and teachers in the district who have a variety of experiences and backgrounds that ensure the success of this project. The two administrators, Mr. Steve Rose and Mrs. Karen Bieneman, both provide the leadership and creative thinking this project will entail. In addition, Mr. Rose is the Rtf Grant Coordinator and the AP Grant Coordinator. The district has two technology coordinators, Mr. Marcus Peljean and Mrs. Missy Miron, who have direct experience with implementing new technology into the district's use and curriculum. They currently have responsibility for updating the district's computer labs and teacher's classrooms with Mac computers and appropriate software. As the district's Media Specialist, Mrs. Leah Fullekamp brings invaluable experience with her trainings and certifications. Mrs. Fullekamp is currently piloting the Online AP Government course and holds the following credentials: Google Apps Certified Trainer, SMART Exemplary Educator, Microsoft Innovative Educator Master Trainer, and Ohio Resource Center Ambassador. With these certifications, the district is able to provide in-house training opportunities to the staff whenever the need arises. Finally, the district has experience with utilizing technology in the classroom with the flipped classroom, Google Apps, and the Edmodo online services through Mr. Eric Sullenberger, AP Chemistry and AP Physics teacher, and Mrs. Jana Salisbury, AP English teacher. The combination of these individuals and their various experiences with technology implementation will ensure success of this proposed project.

The usage of the amounts and types of courses and services the district can offer students. In order for our students to become effective leaders of the 21st century and to meet the demands of an ever-changing digital world, Russia Local School is looking to implement and utilize various technology devices and programs. The district will be able to become a technology catalyst for schools in the surrounding area is a showcase an improvement in student learning and achievement while limiting spending costs and reducing the overall budget. Even with the district's limited staff and resources, students will be able to receive unlimited opportunities through this proposed project. By covering our entire K-12 building, the project will involve placing devices in the hands of all students on a daily basis. Grades K-2 will have a classroom set of IPAD minis with an iTunes account to be used by students for reinforcement of learning standards, implementation of creative projects, and opportunities for accelerated practice. This will ensure all learners are receiving an individualized educational plan to increase their future success. Students in grades 3-4 will also have a classroom set of devices, and these will include IPADs with an iTunes account. As with the younger grades, these learners will maintain an individualized learning plan that will provide immediate feedback through the devices and their applications. The usage of devices will continue in grades 5-9 with the implementation of one IPAD cart and one laptop cart staffed with 30 devices respectively. These mobile computer labs will allow entire classes to access online textbooks, applications, and programs that are not accessible without these devices. These mobile computer labs will allow teachers to reach beyond the means of the school and provide students with additional-features aligned to the Common Core Standards. Finally, students in grades 10-12 will operate on a one device per one student ratio. Each student in these grades will be equipped with a Google Chromebook and its appropriate management software. These notebooks will allow students to take an unlimited number of online Advanced Placement courses and receive assisted learning in other Advanced Placement courses, ACT preparation, and learning blogs. Teachers will also implement wiki pages, Blackboard style submission of assignments, and online lectures that will utilize a flipped classroom. Through these devices, students will be able to take an unlimited amount of advanced courses that have not been traditionally offered in order to prepare for the next step in their...
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.

- Kindergarten through 8th grade classrooms, the project will provide teachers with tools that will allow for a differentiated classroom. Russia School does not have sufficient staff members available to provide gifted teachers to our identified students. The district will provide interventions to all students not making adequate yearly progress. The ability to have IPADs and IPADs in the classroom will give students the opportunity to learn at their own pace and complete activities that are appropriate for their individual level. In addition to IXL Math and Star Reading Enterprise, the following programs will also be utilized in the classroom: ReadLive, Brain Pop, Study Island, and Kahn Academy, which have all been proven effective to raise student performance. In addition to these programs, students in grades 5-8 will be able to access online textbooks and teacher-created lessons. Teachers can also create online courses using the practices outlined by Salman Khan's book The One World Schoolhouse. Meanwhile, at the high school level, students will have the ability to take courses that have previously been unavailable to them due to the district's limited staff and resources. Because of the number of teachers employed through the district, a single Advanced Placement course is only able to be offered one period a day. This does not allow flexibility in the students' schedules and prevents them from achieving some of their academic goals. With the one to one device program, the classroom teachers will have flexibility in scheduling with unlimited class offerings. Students will also achieve success in learning 21st Century skills that are needed for them to become leaders of their community in the future. Through the usage of this project, our school will work towards achieving the following goals. Overall, Russia Local School has the goal to increase the School Performance Index to 110.5 for the 2014-2015 academic year. With this goal in mind, grades 3-8 will achieve an average of 99% passing with 75% of the students meeting or exceeding their respective state assessments. For the high school level, students in grade 10 will have 100% OGT passing rate with 75% performing at advanced or accelerated; students in grades 11 and 12 will achieve an average ACT score of 25.2 with greater than 90% participating. The decrease of one instructional aide will result in a savings of $15,000 per year beginning with fiscal year 2015. As noted in the financial impact documentation, the reduction of one instructional aide results in a savings of $15,000 per year. The districts also anticipate a savings in purchased services of $2,000 in fiscal year 2014 and a savings of $3,500 in fiscal year 2015 and all subsequent years. In addition, there are anticipated savings in purchased services of $2,000 in fiscal year 2014 and a savings of $3,500 in fiscal year 2015 and all subsequent years. The district is anticipating a recurring cost of $9,800 in capital outlay to purchase the additional one to one devices in fiscal year 2016 and all following years for each incoming sophomore student. The district is anticipating a total savings of $16,700 per year due to the implementation of the Straight A Grant. On October 16, 2013, the Russia Board of Education passed a resolution of support for implementing and sustaining the initiatives from the Straight A Grant. This resolution ensures the support of the district to maintain the forward progress of the students achieved through the use of technology. The support of the School Board reflects their trust in our teachers and their understanding of the importance of this project.

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.

* 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.

* 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).

* 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).

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

122,650.00 ** Total project cost

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.

9,800.00 ** 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.

* 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).

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

26,500.00 ** 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.)

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 the project will continue to exist beyond the life of the grant.

As noted in the financial documentation, the reduction of one instructional aide will result in a savings of $15,000 per year beginning with fiscal year 2015. With a reduction in the need of additional tutoring services, the district anticipates a $2,000 savings in fiscal year 2014 and a $3,500 savings in fiscal year 2015 and all subsequent years. The district also anticipates a savings in purchased services due to reduced printing expenses of $4,000 in fiscal year 2014 and a savings of $8,000 in fiscal year 2015 and all subsequent years. The district is anticipating a recurring cost of $9,800 in capital outlay to purchase the additional one to one devices in fiscal year 2016 and all following years for each incoming sophomore student. The district is anticipating a total savings of $16,700 per year due to the implementation of the Straight A Grant. On October 16, 2013, the Russia Board of Education passed a resolution of support for implementing and sustaining the initiatives from the Straight A Grant. This resolution ensures the support of the district to maintain the forward progress of the students achieved through the use of technology. The support of the School Board reflects their trust in our teachers and their understanding of the importance of this project.

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): 01-22-2013
* Narrative explanation
The goal of this project is to increase student learning and performance while equipping students with skills needed in the 21st century. Instructional practices will be changed due to the nature of this project. Students will receive more individualized instruction through the applications on the devices that will meet their learning needs. Teachers will also incorporate online textbooks to encourage independent reading and comprehension and understanding while past e-learning programs will be used for collaboration and publishing purposes. Overall, the district will assume a goal related to the use of technology in the classroom. In grades K-6, 80% of teachers will use interactive technology on a daily basis; whereas, 80% of teachers in grades 7-12 will incorporate technology into their lessons at least three times weekly. In addition to this project changing the delivery and types of lessons, students encounter daily, the devices and their applications will also change the types of courses offered by the district.

Students will no longer tend to look towards a post-secondary option to fulfill their desire to take college level courses. Through the APEX Learning program, students will be able to take a variety of Advanced Placement courses to test for college credit at our school. Also, students will be offered a greater variety of courses than can currently be offered due to the size of the staff and district. This will also be effective to the effectiveness of delivering assignments to students and returning these assignments to the teacher. Students will also utilize Edmodo, an educational service that allows students to communicate through a digital classroom. With this service, students can respond to discussion threads, take surveys, post assignments, and comment on their peers' submissions. This is the same format that many companies use to stimulate creative and collaborative projects. This incorporation and implementation of technology will have a great impact on student learning and achievement for the district. Due to the changes in state assessments, the Next Generation Assessments expect students to not only be tested over the Common Core Standards but also to be tested over elements that are embedded with 21st century skills, according to the text Google Apps Meet Common Core. In 2015, students in grades K-12 will be required to perform standardized tests on an electronic device, which will require students to have greater technology skills than are currently being taught within the district. Students will need to produce writings using online programs and understand how to collaborate and share their creations. The implementation of Google Docs on the district's devices will give students the platform necessary to practice and perfect these skills. In addition, the comfortability with electronic devices and its programs will help to alleviate test anxiety and provide students with the skills necessary to succeed on these new assessments.

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.

Russia Local School has numerous past successes that ensure the attainment of this project's goals and expectations. Through recent OSPC building projects, the school building currently has wireless infrastructure in place to make the piloting of the project possible. One use of the wireless infrastructure is seen with the use of online course offerings. Teachers are currently implementing online courses in both government and history. Students are able to have an independent period during the school day to use a computer to access their assignments and assessments. These courses are preparing students for future course material and helping to facilitate school assignments. In addition to this, the AP Chemistry class is organized in a flipped classroom setting that demands students' use of technology. The teacher is able to record his lectures and place these lectures online via Teacher Tube. Students are then able to access these recordings outside the classroom as a homework assignment to watch demonstrations, listen to lectures, and witness math examples. This provides students with valuable time in class for the instructor to assist with various labs and homework. Students will also be able to achieve the same level of success for any course by utilizing this same principle. According to the book Flip Your Classroom: Reach Every Student In Every Class Every Day, the flipped classroom offers a unique individualized educational plan for every student. Students can use their Chromebooks at home to access these lectures and watch them at their own pace. Class time would be more appropriately spent assisting individual students. High achieving students will receive the gifted instruction desired while low achieving students will receive supplemental work to assist in their understanding of the lesson. The implementation of this project will also require the standing for the district. There will be less personnel cost for tutoring and interventions. Through the savings in personnel costs, the district will utilize technology to provide a more effective means of interventions and enrichments that will provide benefits to the entire student body. Many of the applications that can be used on PDAs, laptops, and Google Chromebooks are free for educational purposes. Also, many of these applications can be tailored for an individual student to increase his or her knowledge and performance. The district is also able to save money by offering online classes at a lower rate than hiring additional staff to teach those same courses during the regular school day. In the end, the district hopes to save the community money by increasing the number of college credits students receive through the Advanced Placement program. With over 80% of the district's graduates continuing their education, the savings to the community as a result of students taking additional AP course will be significant.

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

22. If so, how?

Russia Local School operates in a small, rural community. Our district serves approximately four hundred students and the successes of our students illustrate the dedication and determination of our entire staff members and student body. This project can be replicated in a district of similar size or a district that operates on a much larger scale. The district is an example of how a small school can provide the highest level of education with all the course offerings and academic opportunities of a larger district but in a setting in which students receive personalized attention. With these opportunities, the district also provides these services at a per pupil expenditure that is over $2,000 below the state average. Russia Local School's successes can attest to other districts that success can be achieved through many programs and resources. Our staff is dedicated to helping students achieve their goals and is committed to providing an excellent education for each student. The district has made a dedicated commitment to the technology in the classroom. Currently, the school is participating in OPAPP (Ohio Performance Assessment Pilot Project) to test new methods of assessments and implementations of these assessments. Through OPAPP, the school has seen the following benefits: Teachers have also been able to test the delivery of these projects to serve as a precept model to other educators. The district's participation in this project demonstrates its desire to implement and facilitate new methods in education. Finally, the Superintendent serves on Ohio's Advanced Placement Advisory Council. This newly developed panel assists schools in improving student performance through Advanced Placement courses. The administration and teaching staff are willing to work with any district to promote an increase of student learning and performance.

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

The lasting impact of this grant will change how the district's staff and students view technology and its ability to impact student learning and achievement. The grant will assist the district in achieving its goal of providing every student with the tools and skills needed to be successful. In the primary grades, this includes monitoring the progress of every student and providing the intervention that every struggling student needs to find success. Teachers will also be able to provide enrichment opportunities to challenge the most advanced students. At the high school level, teachers and administrators have the opportunity to take on 40-year-old APEX PALS courses that were begun in the 21st century. These courses are currently high demand courses that students are eager to take. This will have a lasting impact on the educational integrity of the district. Expiration of the grant will not have a negative or lasting impact on the project. The cost savings associated with this project will allow for additional devices to be obtained and programs to be continued. Russia Local School Board of Education is prepared to support this technology-centered project and realizes the benefit for the future of the school district. The lasting impact of this project will be felt for years to come due to its ability to keep with the changes in the educational system. Russia's students will be prepared to lead
The district will closely monitor student progress in grades K-12 through their quarterly benchmarking in reading and math. Through this project, the district will be able to offer more intensive interventions to those not making expected growth. If teachers see a reduction in students not making adequate growth, the administration will provide additional training for staff members on appropriate programs to use on the devices. In addition, the district will monitor its scores on standardized tests and teachers’ individual value added measures. The district’s benchmark is to see consistent growth towards its goal of 95% passing and 70% achieving at the advanced or accelerated level. To measure the district’s complete success in student achievement and growth, a 110.5 will be achieved for the performance index and each 90% of the staff will have a positive value added growth. There is $20,000 a year in projected savings in personnel cost and an additional $8,000 in reduced copying expenses. Due to the nature of the program, less personnel will be needed to facilitate physical classrooms at the school and to provide remedial services for students. The district is expecting an 11% reduction in copying expenses through the use of the one to one implementation, but this will require a change in practices for students and staff. There will be a monitoring of the copying use quarterly for the first year of the project and then annually after year one to ensure that the district is achieving the projected savings. It is anticipated that staff members will need annual training on the use of Google Docs, which will be the primary tool in the digital curriculum. A benchmark for the use of interactive technology within grades K-6 is 80% within the first year. Likewise, a benchmark for teachers in grades 7-12 is that 70% of teachers will use interactive technology to engage their entire class a minimum of two times per week the first year of implementation. One goal of the project that is not easily benchmarked is the possible savings to the district’s community members. There is a potential for parents of our students to save thousands of dollars by taking Advanced Placement courses at Russia Local School. This would keep many students from taking college general education courses and remedial courses that do not apply to their desired degree.

The district will use a biannual survey of staff and students to measure the quantity and quality of interactive technology use within the district. Using current data, the district estimates that 40% of K-6 teachers use interactive technology daily, and it is a goal to increase this to 80% within one year and 90% within two years. Current data shows that only 20% of 7-12 teachers have students actively engaged using interactive technology once per week. It is a goal after year one of the project that 70% of these teachers will have the students use interactive technology twice a week and after year two, 80% of teachers will have students actively engaged using interactive technology three times a week. If data on the surveys are not showing growths towards the goals on the use of interactive technology, the district will offer professional development on ways to incorporate interactive technology into teachers’ lessons. If necessary, administrators will require staff members to make note of their intended use of interactive technology within their lesson plans so that they can monitor each teacher’s individual effort to incorporate technology into his or her lessons. Each teacher will closely monitor student usage of online programs such as IXL, Study Island, and APEX Learning. These programs automatically track and send weekly reports as to which students log into the programs, the amount of time they spend logged in, and the number questions students answer correctly. Each teacher can then intervene to assure the devices and its applications are being used for their intended purposes. Through quarterly benchmarking of all K-6 students in reading and math, the district will monitor student growth and the effectiveness of digital interventions. The technology committee will continue to have meetings to increase communication on educational needs and the latest advances in technology. In addition, the district will also continue to collaborate with other school districts on the successes and failures of this project. Through this collaboration, Russia Local School will not only serve as a model of implementing technology more fully into the classroom, but the district will also learn how to improve its current methods by continuing to immerse itself in various programs.

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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. Steven Rose Superintendent Russia Local School 10-24-13