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Adjusted Allocation: 0.00

Remaining: -286,000.00
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: Innovative Curricular Resources

2. Executive summary: Provide an executive summary of your project proposal and which goal(s) in question if you seek to achieve. Please limit your responses to no more than three sentences.

Summit Academy Secondary School Akron would like to purchase four resources: A+nywhere Learning System, Connector, Educational Impact and GradeCam, to address all three of the Straight A goals; improving student achievement, reducing spending, and enabling a greater share of resources to be used in the classroom. A+nywhere Learning System will provide the school with a supplemental K-12 electronic curricular resource allowing teachers a greater capacity for true differentiated instruction. Grade Cam and Connector will allow for streamlined grading of all classroom assessments and activities. Finally, adding Educational Impact will provide a robust professional development suite that is directly aligned with OTES & OPES requirements.

133 1. Total Students Impacted:

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

First Name, last Name of contact for lead applicant: Dawn Presley
Organizational name of lead applicant: Summit Academy Akron Elementary School
Unique Identifier (RN/Fed Tax ID): 133587
Address of lead applicant: 2503 Leland Ave., Akron, OH 44312
Phone Number of lead applicant: 330-744-7441
Email Address of lead applicant: dawn.presley@summitacademies.org

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

First Name, last Name of contact for secondary applicant: Debra skul
Organizational name of secondary applicant: Summit Academy Akron Elementary
Unique Identifier (RN/Fed Tax ID): 133587
Address of secondary applicant: 2503 Leland Ave., Akron, OH 44312
Phone number of secondary applicant: 330-670-8470
Email address of secondary applicant: debra.skul@summitacademies.org

Dawn Presley holds a B.A. from Miami University in Sociology and Psychology, an M.A.Ed. from the University of Akron in Counseling, and an M.A.Ed. from Ashland University in School Administration. Prior to coming to Summit Academy, she worked as a Qualified Mental Retardation Professional for a group home and was employed as a Preschool teacher for 3 year olds. Her last job, prior to Summit Academy, was as a program manager for a welfare-to-work program where she taught adults skills they could take into the workplace. Ms. Presley started her career at Summit Academy in 2001 where she worked in the Special Education Department and traveled to schools to complete testing. Shortly after joining Summit Academy, she was placed in the Akron Elementary building as the IEP Coordinator. After a few years in this position, Ms. Presley was promoted to the Director of IEP Coordinators for all of the Summit Academies in the state of Ohio. In 2006, Ms. Presley made the move to Director/Principal position at Akron Elementary and has enjoyed working closely with the students again. Ms. Presley lives in Akron with her family, Pat and Kayla. She enjoys quilting, crafting, reading, church, camping and gardening. Debra Skul is Chief Academic Officer for the Summit Academy schools. These schools are public, community schools designed specifically for children and adolescents with ADHD, Autism Spectrum Disorders and other related conditions. Ms. Skul is responsible for choosing and developing curricular materials and instructional methods that take into account the unique learning styles found in of these students who have Asperger's Disorder or ADHD. Ms. Skul holds a Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education from Baldwin-Wallace College and a Master of Science in Education from Lake Erie College. John Guyer Mr. Guyer has a 22-year IT background in manufacturing and education. He holds several technology certifications including Cisco, Microsoft, and Novell. Mr. Guyer holds numerous corporate awards and a US Patent in Polymer Science. John completed his associates in Computer Technology at NIT in 1989 and has attended college at Silver Lake College and University of Phoenix. He came to Summit Academy in 2005 to build the Summit data center and has been responsible for the network and data center since that time. In 2010, Mr. Guyer moved the data center to its current location and has been the Technology Director for the past three years. He has been responsible for many technology and building projects and oversees Summit Academy’s EMIS Department.

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.

In many cases, teachers are limited in the availability of up-to-date quality resources that align with the Common Core Standards. When purchasing textbooks and other resources they quickly become out dated and need a new curricular adoption within a few years adding more cost to already restricted budgets. Not only are teachers limited in the access of resource materials but within our classrooms we have many students at different ability levels. Teachers struggle with providing instruction to each of these ability ranges within each classroom. Through the selection of A+nywhere Learning System (A+LS), Connector and GradeCam teachers will be able to provide their students with individualized instruction along with immediate feedback that allows them to respond to every student's needs. A+nywhere Learning System (A+LS) is a full curricular resource for grades K-12 that provides a comprehensive assessment suite including prescriptive, formative, summative and mastery based testing. A+LS can be utilized in many different ways to be tailor fit to all classroom needs. Diagnostic assessments that are aligned to state, common core and national standards are utilized to provide automatic prescriptions to meet the individual student needs based on their performance and mastery of skills. Additionally through the flexible Assignment Management feature of the A+LS software, teachers are able to design their own thematic units, project-based lesson activities or add lessons to units from multiple grade levels under the same content area. The robust content and different assessment models, enable the software to be used across multiple district programs, including Credit Recovery, Alternative Ed., State Test (OGT/OAA) and ACT/SAT prep., College Readiness,
The project will advance the school improvement plan by increasing academic success, allowing teachers to instruct students at their levels and put the greatest share of resources in the classroom.

In years past purchases of curriculum resource have been made on average in the amount of $68,640.00. To ensure the plan stays on track purchase orders will be created and submitted to vendors. A professional development calendar will be created with the vendors to ensure our specific training dates can be secured.

Through the implementation of these resources the school will experience several savings over the course of the next five years and beyond. Initial savings will be experienced as early as year two of the program as all products are a one-time cost. In years past purchases of curriculum resource have been made on average in the amount of $68,640.00. With the Purchase of the A+LS program as a supplemental resource, curriculum cost will be reduced resulting in a yearly savings of $57,200.00, which is the average cost minus the A+LS yearly update charge. Through the approach of seeking ownership of all A+LS titles grades K-12. A+LS is easily coupled with other education technology such as video pencil test and receive results immediately. The program is highly visual, employing a variety of streaming video, resource links and high quality graphics to keep students actively engaged and motivated to learn.

The project will also 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. 

If school/district receives school improvement funds/support, include a brief explanation of how this project will advance the improvement plan.

If school/district receives school improvement funds/support, include a brief explanation of how this project will advance the improvement plan.

If there are no new/recurring costs, explain in detail how this project will sustain itself beyond the life of the grant.

If there are no new/recurring costs, explain in detail how this project will sustain itself beyond the life of the grant.

If school/district receives school improvement funds/support, include a brief explanation of how this project will advance the improvement plan.

If all staff members are trained to have the capability to train others the staff become the true factor that make this project sustainable well beyond the lifetime of the grant funds. As stated, staff training is critical to the success of these initiatives. Along with the training the project will also include an online professional development platform that will allow teachers to train at their own pace at times that are convenient for them. In some cases, teachers are hired after the initial training has taken place and this teacher learning platform will allow those individuals to access training without disrupting any classroom instructional time.

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

286,000.00 * 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 costs 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 total cost of the project is $286,000.00. This is the total amount of funds being requested through the Straight A Grant Fund. If funds are awarded no other additional funds will be needed to support this initiative. A+LS impact will be reduced resulting in a yearly savings of $57,200.00 which is the average cost minus the A+LS yearly update charge. Through the approach of seeking ownership of all A+LS titles grades K-12.

* Narrative explanation/rationale: Provide details on the anticipated savings (i.e. staff counts and salary/benefits, equipment to be purchased and cost, etc.)

In this project model, the only ongoing cost would be an annual update and service package for the A+LS. This cost is $3,500.00 per year. If funds are not available for the $3,500.00 cost, the program would still be functional and maintain all system capabilities. All other products are a one-time cost. Teacher training on all system is another area where there may be potential ongoing cost. The initial professional development purchased with this package is designed as a train the trainer model to provide a pool of individuals within the district that can train other staff members. Ideally, this will not be an ongoing cost but it is never a 100% guarantee that all staff will be retained within the district. The selected professional development package will allow for all staff to be trained and in subsequent years train new teachers as they are added to Summit Academy.

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

57,200.00 * 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.)

Through the implementation of these resources the school will experience several savings over the course of the next five years and beyond. Initial savings will be experienced as early as year two of the program as all products are a one-time cost. In years past purchases of curriculum resource have been made on average in the amount of $68,640.00. With the Purchase of the A+LS program as a supplemental resource, curriculum cost will be reduced resulting in a yearly savings of $57,200.00, which is the average cost minus the A+LS yearly update charge. Through the approach of seeking ownership of electronic text that are updatable substantial cost savings are realized while still allowing materials to stay up-to-date. Educational impact will also create several opportunities for cost savings to be realized providing the school a way to provide teacher training while avoiding additional cost like travel and substitute teacher time. Expected savings will be seen for the foreseeable future as the saved money given through the Straight A Fund will establish these resources in the school with little to no additional cost.

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.

If there are no new/recurring costs, explain in detail how this project will sustain itself beyond the life of the grant.

With negligible cost associated with updating and sustaining this project the cost reductions far exceed the minimal $3,500.00 annual cost. With purchasing a long term curriculum supplement, curriculum cost will be reduced in the future. The cost savings will then be utilized to support the schools overall operating budget. When implementing any project of this nature there is always a need to ensure that all staff are well trained and up to speed on the utilization of any new resources added to the classroom. This single factor can truly be the difference between success and failure of any program. With this in mind, to help with the longevity of this project we have incorporated a professional development package that includes training that will take place over the course of the first three years of the implementation. The training will be a Train the Trainer model that allows teachers to later help and assist with on-boarding new staff members. If all staff members are trained to have the capability to train others the staff become the true factor that make this project sustainable well beyond the lifetime of the grant funds. As stated, staff training is critical to the success of these initiatives. Along with the training the project will also include an online professional development platform that will allow teachers to train at their own pace at times that are convenient for them. In some cases, teachers are hired after the initial training has taken place and this teacher learning platform will allow those individuals to access training without disrupting any classroom instructional time.

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.)

* Narrative explanation/rationale: Provide details on the anticipated savings (i.e. staff counts and salary/benefits, equipment to be purchased and cost, etc.)

Plan-All involved parties were brought together to identify the needs of the school and how they can be rectified. The group researched and determined that the identified software would fit all three areas of this grant. Once proposals were gathered the group met with the schools treasurer to ensure this route would have a tremendous cost savings for the school. The group decided that initiation of the project will begin immediately upon receipt of the award letter to have greater impact on student achievement. A meeting will be scheduled will all involved parties to define and assign roles and responsibilities within the project. To ensure the plan stays on track purchases orders will be created and submitted to vendors. A professional development calendar will be created with the vendors to ensure our specific training dates can be secured. At this time, we do not anticipate barriers to completion.
**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.

Instructionally, these programs will allow the teachers to have access to more curricular resources than they have had in the past. Traditionally, when text materials are used in the classroom, the teacher only has access to that grade level material. With these electronic resources the teacher in every classroom will have at their fingertips all content from grades K-12 which becomes invaluable as we look at the diversity of learners in every classroom. The power of the electronic platforms used in combination with each other now provide the teacher the power to instruct every student at their own individual instructional level and have the technology assist with grading and organization of the information. Teachers now have the power and resources to adjust their instruction to meet the needs of every child.

As data and information is gathered through the program, teachers now have an electronic method by which student data is collected and organized to allow them to shift their instruction as needed. Teachers will now be able to drastically reduce the time spent grading assessments and other activities to focus on driving and improving instructional outcomes for students. As a result, teachers will be able to provide more meaningful targeted instruction and more time on task for their students. This will have a direct and positive correlation with student achievement. With the availability of these programs to students grades 4-7 students can be provided with extended and meaningful learning opportunities that go beyond the classroom and the traditional structure of the school day.

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

Yes

22. If so, how?

The project is easily replicated throughout the state and in other schools and districts. Outside of the initial cost of the programs, it is a self-sustaining project as there are no yearly or ongoing costs. The other factor that makes this project easily duplicated is that it is not unique to a particular demographic or school population. There are no minimum or maximum school student limits; where schools with large enrollment will be impacted. The cost of the project is based off of site licenses for the software therefore; the number of students at a school does not make the program any more expensive.

With what is provided under the program, the content is easily replicated throughout the state and in other schools and districts.

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

An increase of 5% on state testing results in Math and Reading on an annual basis.

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.

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<th>Benchmark Description</th>
<th>Expected Impact</th>
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<td><strong>Approximately $400,000.00 in savings from Curriculum and Professional Development expenditures over the final 4 years of the 5 year forecast.</strong></td>
<td>3. In compliance with 100% of all professional development identified for all teachers and principals through OTES &amp; OPES. An increase of 5% on state testing results in Math and Reading on an annual basis.</td>
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25. Describe the plan to evaluate the impact of the concept, strategy or approaches used.

**I Accept**

Accept 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.)

**I Accept**

Accept 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.

26. 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 legislation, governor, 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 signature and the date:

Accept Stephanie Ataya Treasurer Summit Academy Management 2791 Magdore Rd. Akron, OH 44321 10/25/2013