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Adjusted Allocation: 0.00
Remaining: -845,000.00
Dean Reineke is the Executive Director of Metropolitan Dayton Educational Cooperative Association (MDECA). This consortium will build an ERP system designed for modern business analytics and resource planning.

Pam has an AAS in Computer Information Systems from Sinclair Community College.

45405, 937.223.1112, reineke@mdeca.org

While facing pending operating deficits, Eric was instrumental in restructuring of personnel that were being purchased from an ESC as an increasing expense and turned to being a service provider of those same services and created a revenue source for the district. Dean Reineke is the Executive Director of Metropolitan Dayton Educational Cooperative Association (MDECA). Dean will oversee the MDECA Hosting and EMIS Support Services included in the grant. Eric Beavers is the Treasurer/CFO of Fairborn City Schools.

Judy Thomas is the President of The TM Group and she has more than 30 years of accounting, sales & marketing, project management, data processing and training experience. Judy has three decades of experience with Microsoft ERP & CRM products including Great Plains Accounting, Dynamics GP, and Dynamics SL, and has a background in human resources. She has overseen building projects, intellectual property development, and completed Phase I of the Microsoft Dynamics GP solution for Vandalia-Butler City Schools. Judy also brings a year fiscal forecast to the TM Group.

Eric Beavers is the Treasurer/CFO of Fairborn City Schools. He has been instrumental in restructuring of personnel that were being purchased from an ESC as an increasing expense and turned to being a service provider of those same services and created a revenue source for the district. Dean Reineke is the Executive Director of Metropolitan Dayton Educational Cooperative Association (MDECA). Dean will oversee the MDECA Hosting and EMIS Support Services included in the grant. Eric Beavers is the Treasurer/CFO of Fairborn City Schools. With nineteen years of treasurer's office experience, he brings a wide range of creativity for day-to-day operations and fiscal management. While facing pending operating deficits, Eric was instrumental in restructuring of personnel that were being purchased from an ESC as an increasing expense and turned to being a service provider of those same services and created a revenue source for the district. Dean Reineke is the Executive Director of Metropolitan Dayton Educational Cooperative Association (MDECA). Dean will oversee the MDECA Hosting and EMIS Support Services included in the grant. Dean has over 20 years of experience with Information Technology Centers in Ohio.

Judy Thomas, The TM Group Inc., 937.223.1112, judyt@tmgroupinc.com

Donielle Winslow

Tiffany Hiser, Project Manager, Vandalia-Butler City Schools, will be the lead applicant for the grant and oversee fiscal implementation, schedule, and benchmarking. She is a licensed school treasurer with a background in human resources. She has overseen building projects, intellectual property development, and completed Phase I of the Microsoft Dynamics GP solution for Vandalia-Butler City Schools. Daniel Schall is the Treasurer of Vandalia-Butler City Schools and has 14 years of innovative Treasurer's office experience, being the first in Ohio to offer HSAs, propose revenue building legislation for public schools, develop and successfully negotiate adjunct teaching contracts for K-12 teachers, and develop intellectual property for Vandalia-Butler City Schools. Mr. Schall is the only public school employee to complete an Executive MBA with The Ohio State University and has private experience with NCR/AT&T Shared Service Centers. Mr. Schall and Mrs. Hiser will act as the fiscal agent for the consortium. Eric Beavers is the Treasurer/CFO of Fairborn City Schools. With nineteen years of treasurer's office experience, he brings a wide range of creativity for day-to-day operations and fiscal management. While facing pending operating deficits, Eric was instrumental in restructuring of personnel that were being purchased from an ESC as an increasing expense and turned to being a service provider of those same services and created a revenue source for the district. Dean Reineke is the Executive Director of Metropolitan Dayton Educational Cooperative Association (MDECA). Dean will oversee the MDECA Hosting and EMIS Support Services included in the grant. Dean has over 20 years of experience with Information Technology Centers in Ohio. Dean has a BS in Information Technology from Defiance College. Pam Tomlinson is a Systems Analyst with the Applications team at MDECA. Pam has 20+ years in EMIS reporting and state software installation/support. Pam will assist with EMIS related changes/updates as they may affect conversion/implementation. Pam has an AAS in Computer Information Systems from Sinclair Community College. Chris Knodle is the Application Support Manager at MDECA. Chris has over 15 years of experience in systems and network administration. Chris will build, install, and maintain the server environment to ensure reliability and solid performance. Chris has a B.S. in Aerospace Studies from Embry Riddle Aeronautical University. Judy Thomas is the President of The TM Group and she has more than 30 years of accounting, sales & marketing, project management, data processing and training experience. Judy has three decades of experience with Microsoft ERP & CRM products including Great Plains Accounting, Dynamics GP, and Dynamics SL, and has a background in human resources. She has overseen building projects, intellectual property development, and completed Phase I of the Microsoft Dynamics GP solution for Vandalia-Butler City Schools. Judy also brings a year fiscal forecast to the TM Group.

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.

Current State financial and Payroll/HR software does not allow for streamlined processing, real-time reporting, and paperless management of workflows. Costly and inefficient, it limits both day-to-day operations and the ability of districts to employ people outside of the system. At a time when school districts need to be nimble to change, the state software system promotes outdated skill sets and inhibits growth and automation. Designed for a different era, the system's limitations make it difficult to provide real-time data transparency to stakeholders a key demand made on school districts at all levels, from

11. Describe the innovative project.
state leadership down to community stakeholders. Vandalia-Butler City Schools has taken the initial steps to change this model by implementing a Microsoft Dynamics GP school-based ERP system for back office functions. Through the Phase I Implementation, the district is experiencing savings through reduced headcount, reduced reporting time, increased visibility and reduced paperwork while significantly improving efficiency.

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

Sustainability will be derived from automation capabilities. Improved efficiencies will be possible with a software that grows with the schools stakeholders. Designed for 21st century operations, the system is engineered to accommodate changes in reporting requirements and operations management. Additionally this software has several intangible benefits that will expedite time as a resource to both the building level and district level. As a result of the more efficient system, resource time can shift from fiscal and business operations to student/staff more efficient and transparent operations.

C) SUSTAINABILITY - Planning for ongoing funding of the project, cost breakdown

13. Financial Documentation - All applicants must enter or upload the following supporting information. Responses should refer to specific information in the financial documents when applicable:
   a. Enter a project budget
   b. Upload the Straight A Financial Impact Template forecasting the expected changes to the five-year forecast resulting from implementation of this project. If applying as a consortia or partnership, please include the five-year forecasts of each school district, community school or STEM school project for review.
   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?
   845,000.00 * 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 cost of items included in the budget (i.e. staff counts and salary/benefits, equipment to be purchased and cost, etc.).

The cost of the consortia technology includes: Microsoft Dynamics Software Licenses: $350,000 Consulting and Implementation (Service): $275,000 Hosting and EMIS support (Service): $150,000 - MDECA server upgrades and staffing of services Technology Hardware (Capital): $15,000 - scanners and upgraded end user technology Training & Professional Development: $5,000 - Microsoft training/registrations to annual events Additional staff: $100,000 (1 full-time or 2 part-time employees - employed for implementation and support, 12 Microsoft Dynamics solution, school

15. What are the new/recurring costs of your innovative project will continue once the grant has expired? If there are no new/recurring costs, please explain why.
   40,000.00 * 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.

Annual licensing costs associated with Microsoft and third party providers are expected to be $30,000. These costs will be offset by reduced SBDT/General service contract with State software support (MDECA). Additional consulting and support costs by The TM Group will recur but are expected to be billed hourly as needed and estimated at $10,000 annually.

16. Are there expected savings that may result from the implementation of the innovative project?
   99,914.00 * 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.).

Members of the consortium will reduce headcount for back office support. Fairborn is expecting to drop a position and reduce fiscal service fees totaling an annual savings of $54,914 and Vandalia-Butler is cutting an additional $45,000 per year in past time fiscal support upon consortia implementation.

17. Provide a brief explanation of how the project is self-sustaining. If there are ongoing costs associated with the project after the term of the grant, this explanation should provide details on the cost reductions that will be made that are at least equal to the amount of new/recurring costs detailed above. If there are no new/recurring costs, explain in detail how this project will sustain itself beyond the life of the grant.

The consortia will provide capacity not currently offered by public schools. The savings from an automated enterprise resource planning tool along with the shared service capability will provide a means for more efficient and transparent operations. Sustainability will be derived from automation capabilities. Improved efficiencies will be possible with a software that grows with the schools stakeholders. Designed for 21st century operations, the system is engineered to accommodate changes in reporting requirements and operations management. Additionally this software has several intangible benefits that will expedite time as a resource to both the building level and district level. As a result of the more efficient system, resource time can shift from fiscal and business operations to student/staff instructional support.

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): 12/01/2013

* Narrative explanation

The TM Group will commence with the business process review to determine district-specific software requirements, review current processes and weaknesses, and develop the implementation plan. Fairborn City and Vandalia-Butler City Schools both will work through phasing of the projects in conjunction with normal business operations (quarterly reporting, fiscal year-end, tax implications, required state reporting, etc.).

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

* Narrative explanation

This phase includes the purchase of Microsoft Dynamics software package, inclusive of third party add-ons, as determined in the business process review. Implementation of the ERP will also commence at this time. The TM Group will work with both Fairborn City and Vandalia-Butler City Schools with implementation plans, milestones, and target dates of completion. MDECA will start...
19. Describe the expected changes to the institutional and/or organizational practices in your institution.

Butler City Schools has successfully implemented Microsoft Dynamics for financial and payroll operations (Phase I). With the State system, Butler needed a full-time accountant for purchasing. After implementation, the time requirement for purchasing and processing has shifted from a full-time position to a few hours a week. Site managers and secretaries manage their own purchasing, and the district was able to reduce 1 full FTE-freeing up more dollars for the classroom. Through Phase II, Butler will eliminate currently contracted services and work to drive increased efficiencies in fixed assets processing, account receivable processing, and human capital management. Butler City Schools, leveraging the knowledge and techniques from Butler's Phase I project, is going to achieve staffing reductions while gaining efficiencies just as VBCS has seen. Butler will combine new automation to simultaneously reduce both a full-time assistant treasurer position, resulting in a part-time staffing reduction. In addition, the new software will allow for a realignment of job duties with the personnel/HR bringing efficiencies and interfacing capabilities with the treasurer's office, an option currently not possible with State software. Since efficiencies will be seen at the building level with a computerized purchasing process, better time management will be gained.

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

Vandalia-Butler City Schools will reduce FTE’s a minimum of .5 in central office; reduce A­site costs for fiscal support services, reduce outsourcing costs for GAAP conversions and audit fees while they increase operating performance. Annual reductions/savings of $54,914 have been estimated. Districts can realize savings in a variety of ways. Employees can manage their own information electronically, freeing up accounting and HR-related resources; paper-free processing eliminates costly printing and paper fees; automated routing and approvals cuts through wasted time and resources; real-time and customizable reporting allows for smarter and faster decision-making; and full access to staff provides better management and empowerment of fiscal decisions. The measurement of this is simple and obvious: extracting efficiencies from automated processing, resulting in reduced backlog and redirection of time and dollars to the classroom, and elimination of paper exchange. Most importantly the solution is scalable and could offer new opportunities for schools and their stakeholders in the way they manage cost and data.

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

Butler took a proven solution commonly utilized in the private-sector and had it customized for the public school sector. The groundwork has been laid, resulting in a repeatable, roll-out-of-town model for reporting requirements. The implementation and reporting requirements to the State and the consortium were all coordinated under the guidance of The TM Group, and MDECA, is poised to offer the next statewide solution that is capable of scaling up to meet the needs of most Ohio public and charter school districts. We plan to increase the scale and scope of this software solution, which has unbounded capabilities by virtue of add-on features, partners, and private sector growth and investment. Private sector users are developing and testing functionality that public sector tax dollars do not have to duplicate in payment or development. In short, this solution can deliver a significant savings for individual school districts and an opportunity for Ohio to demonstrate leading-edge strategies for making public and charter schools more effective. In the end, students are the greatest beneficiaries as dollars that once supported hidden and redundant processes now directly support programs and services.

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.

Vandalia-Butler is being featured during an Open House that is being held at this year’s Capital Conference and an article about the project will be highlighted in Dynamics University Magazine’s next issue. A series of webinars and events will also be offered to share our lessons learned from the selection and implementation so other school districts can leverage our knowledge.