### Berkshire Local (047167) - Geauga County - 2015 - Straight A Fund - Rev 0 - Straight A Fund - Application Number (205)

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

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

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**Total**

|           |             |             | 185,000.00 | 300,000.00 | 1,275,000.00 | 175,000.00 | 1,935,000.00 |

**Adjusted Allocation**

|                   |             |             |             |             |             |             | 0.00 |

**Remaining**

|                   |             |             |             |             |             |             | -1,935,000.00 |
**A) APPLICANT INFORMATION - General Information**

1. **Project Title:**
   Berkshire Local and Newbury Local Consolidation

2. **Executive summary:** Please limit your responses to no more than three sentences.
   This grant will assist Berkshire Local Schools and Newbury Local Schools in consolidation efforts to become one school district for the 2015/2016 School Year. This grant will provide for certain costs that will prove cost prohibitive in the effort to combine the two districts. Districts in Ohio have not consolidated since 1988 and in order to save funding, provide additional resources for students both academically and athletically and move towards an optimal school size our districts are working in a pro-active manner to improve educational opportunities for the students in our area. Students in smaller rural schools with dwindling student population are not afforded educational choices due to limited funding for teachers, lack of sports teams and the ability to offer a continuum of services for students with special needs on their home campus. Small rural districts have a very limited source of financial resources and thus the strain is shown not only in what the school can offer but what they have to continuously request from the voters. By consolidating districts we will be able to offer improved levels of services, a variety of classes and athletics to our students. In addition to high cost savings and shared resources as shown in our financial tables.

   *This is an ultra-concise description of the overall project. It should not include anything other than a brief description of the project and the goals it hopes to achieve.*

3. **Total Students Impacted:**
   1290

   *This is the number of students that will be directly impacted by implementation of the project. This does not include students that may be impacted if the project is replicated or scaled up in the future.*

4. **Please indicate which of the following grade levels will be impacted:**

   - Pre-K Special Education
   - Kindergarten
   - 1
   - 2
   - 3
   - 4
   - 5
   - 6
   - 7
   - 8
   - 9
   - 10
   - 11
   - 12

5. **Lead applicant primary contact:** - Provide the following information:
   
   **First Name, last Name of contact for lead applicant**
   Beth A. McCaffrey

   **Organizational name of lead applicant**
   Berkshire Local Schools

   **Address of lead applicant**
   P.O. Box 364, Burton, Ohio 44021

   **Phone Number of lead applicant**
   (440) 834-3380 x 2107

   **Email Address of lead applicant**
   beth.mccaffrey@berkshireschools.org

6. **Are you submitting your application as a consortium?** - Select one checkbox below
   
   - Yes
   - No

   *If you are applying as consortium, please list all consortium members by name on the "Consortium Member" page by clicking on the link below. If an educational service center is applying as the lead applicant for a consortium, the first consortium member entered must be a client district of the educational service center.*

   **Add Consortium Members**
7. Are you partnering with anyone to plan, implement, or evaluate your project? - Select one checkbox below

- Yes
- No

If you are partnering with anyone, please list all partners by name on the "Partnering Member" page by clicking on the link below.

Add Partnering Members

B) PROJECT DESCRIPTION - Overall description of project and alignment with goals

8. Describe the innovative project: - Provide the following information

The response should provide a clear and concise description of the project and its major components. Later questions will address specific outcomes and the measures of success.

The current state or problem to be solved; and

A) Describe the innovative project:Consolidation talks began in February of 2013. The County Educational Service Center of Geauga County commissioned a study to look at four schools in Geauga County: Cardinal LSD, Ledgemont LSD, Berkshire LSD and Newbury LSD. As a result of this study, Newbury and Berkshire Boards began talks to consider consolidation. Both districts have experienced a decline in enrollment over the past decade. Berkshire's enrollment has declined at an average annual rate of 2.9% over the past ten years, which is almost a loss of 30% of student enrollment. Newbury's enrollment has declined by 3.03% per year, or over 30%. While both districts face the challenges of competing with local parochial, private and online schools, the U.S. Census data shows that Berkshire has experienced a decline in overall school-age children population of 5.63% and Newbury has experienced a decline of 25.11%. As class sizes decline the cost of offering class electives and extracurricular activities are increasing. Both districts have been operating in a deficit spending situation Newbury since 2012 and Berkshire since 2011. Newbury will experience a negative fund balance in fiscal year 2015 and Berkshire will experience a negative fund balance in fiscal year 2017. Newbury is seeking approval of an 8 mill emergency levy in May of 2014. Even if this levy is approved Newbury will be forced to make significant cuts in their operations. Berkshire will need to seek additional operating monies from its voters in 2015 to offset the projected deficits for 2017. By consolidating districts we will be able to offer the students continued access to a variety of educational choices to meet the needs of the students career and college choices with drastic fiscal reductions. For our special needs students we will be offer to a higher continuum of services at their home campus and be able to offer an improved least restrictive environment.

The proposed innovation and how it relates to solving the problem or improving on the current state.

Consolidation of this nature has not occurred in the State of Ohio since 1988. The entire process thus far has been arduous, confusing and ultimately informative. Based on all our research and considerations, we believe consolidation is the best road to take to provide a quality education, but that will ultimately be a decision for the voters of the communities. The current issue is that both districts are not stable districts financially, both have dwindling enrollments, fewer options with academic courses, reduction in athletic options and difficulties offering special education services on the home campus with a low number of students and having to send students to larger campuses for special education services to uphold their least restrictive environment. By consolidating the districts we will continue to be able to offer quality educational options, reduced fiscal expenditures, draw from a larger tax base and increased athletic options. The options that have been considered in the process thus far has been to merge certain buildings, merge athletic teams and to not consolidate the districts and offer levies to both communities. The most financially, academically sound decision for both districts is to consolidate. With consolidation the districts will be able to close an entire building, reduction of teaching staff/administration/classified staff, removal of duplicate services, shared resources and a larger tax base to draw from for stronger financial stability.

9. Which of the stated Straight A Fund goals does the proposal aim to achieve? - (Check all that apply)

Applicants should select any and all goals the proposal aims to achieve. The description of how the goals will be met should provide the reader with a clear understanding of what the project will look like when implemented, with a clear connection between the components of the project and the stated goals of the fund. If partnerships/consortia are part of the project, this section should describe briefly how the various entities will work together in the project. More detailed descriptions of the roles and activities will be addressed in Question 16.

- Student achievement (Describe the specific changes in student achievement you anticipate as a result of this innovation (include grade levels, content areas as appropriate) in the box below.)

Student achievement: this grant will allow the two districts in the consortium to consolidate resources to allow for greater student achievement. Increasing the number of teachers per subject area and grade level will increase the collaboration of teachers to create rigorous, common core aligned curriculum. The consolidation of districts will also allow for the creation of common assessment, including SLO testing with greater validity due to the increased number of teacher collaboration. As student growth increase each year after consolidation, teacher efficiency will also increased due to larger district PLC groups and more focused professional development opportunities.

- Spending reductions in the five-year fiscal forecast or positive performance on other approved fiscal measures (Describe the specific reductions you anticipate in terms of dollars and spending categories over a five-year period in the box below or the positive performance you will achieve on other approved fiscal measures. Other approved fiscal measures include a reduction in spending over a five-year period in the operating budget approved by your organization's executive board or its equivalent.)

Certified Staff (728,736.00) Classified Staff (84,000.00) Superintendent (90,000.00) Treasurer (55,000.00) Principal - HS (75,000.00) Guidance Counselor - HS (38,000.00) Athletic Director (7,993.00) Transportation Manager (34,000.00) Transportation Mechanic (44,500.00) Coaches/Clubs Supplemental (205,619.00) Maintenance Supervisor (45,136.00) Special Education Director (53,325.00) School Psychologist
1/2 (25,981.00) EMIS Coordinator (25,000.00) School Nurse - 1/2 time (28,057.00) Treasurer Staff (35,000.00) Superintendent Secretary (40,000.00) Retirement/Benefits (909,846.00) Utilities - Newbury HS (20,974.00) Special Education Services (120,000.00) Total Savings (2,668,167.00)

Utilization of a greater share of resources in the classroom (Describe specific resources (Personnel, Time, Course offerings, etc.) that will be enhanced in the classroom as a result of this innovation in the box below.)

Student achievement: this grant will allow the two districts in the consortium to consolidate resources to allow for greater student achievement. Increasing the number of teachers per subject area and grade level will increase the collaboration of teachers to create rigorous, common core aligned curriculum. The consolidation of districts will also allow for the creation of common assessment, including SLO testing with greater validity due to the increased number of teacher collaboration. As student growth increase each year after consolidation, teacher efficiency will also increased due to larger district PLC groups and more focused professional development opportunities.

Implementing a shared services delivery model (Describe how your shared services delivery model will demonstrate increased efficiency and effectiveness, long-term sustainability, and scalability in the box below.)

10. Which of the following best describes the proposed project? - (Select one)
- New - never before implemented
- Existing: never implemented in your community school or school district but proven successful in other educational environments
- Mixed Concept: Incorporates new and existing elements
- Established: Elevating or expanding an effective program that is already implemented in your district, school or consortia partnership

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

11. Financial Documentation: - All applicants must enter or upload the following supporting information. The information in these documents must correspond to your responses in questions 11-14.

* Enter a project budget in CCIP (by clicking the link below)

Enter Budget

* If applicable, upload the Consortium Budget Worksheet (by clicking the link below)

* Upload the Financial Impact Table (by clicking the link below)

* Upload the Supplemental Financial Reporting Metrics (by clicking the link below)

Upload Documents

For applicants without an ODE Report Card for 2012-2013, provide a brief narrative explanation of the impact of your grant project on per pupil expenditures or why this metric does not apply to your grant project instead of uploading the Supplemental Financial Reporting Metric.

The project budget is entered directly in CCIP. For consortia, this project budget must reflect the information provided by the applicant in the Consortium Budget Worksheet. Directions for the Financial Impact Table are located on the first tab. Applicants must submit one Financial Impact Table with each application. For consortium applications, each consortium member must add an additional tab on the Financial Impact Tables. Partners are not required to submit a Financial Impact Table.

Applicants with an "Ohio School Report Card" for the 2012-2013 school year must upload the Supplemental Financial Reporting Metrics to provide additional information about cost savings and sustainability. Directions for the Supplemental Financial Reporting Metrics are located on the first tab of the document. If your organization does not have an "Ohio School Report Card" for the 2012-2013 school year, please provide an explanation in the text box about how your grant project will impact expenditures per pupil or why expenditure per pupil data does not apply to your grant project.

Educational service center, county boards of developmental disabilities, and institutions of higher education seeking to achieve positive performance on other approved fiscal measures should submit the budget information approved by an executive board or its equivalent on the appropriate tabs of the Financial Impact Table. Educational service centers should use the "ESC" tab and county boards of developmental disabilities and institutions of higher education should use the "non-traditional" tab.

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

Responses should provide rationale and evidence for each of the budget items and associated costs outlined in the project budget. In no case should the total projected expenses in the budget narrative exceed the total project costs in the budget grid.

1,950,000.00 State the total project cost.

* Provide a brief narrative explanation of the overall budget.

The following costs will be included in the grant: -Community Outreach/Analysis, $50,000 will consist of public meetings, newspaper ads and marketing materials to educate taxpayers about consolidation. -Legal Services, $150,000 will be used to re-negotiate all collective
bargaining contracts. -Signage/Renaming/Uniforms, $175,000 will be needed to account for a new name and colors for the District. The District will have a community contest to seek a name, colors and mascot of the new district. -Curriculum Alignment, $300,000 will be used for additional textbooks and the alignment of curriculum between the two districts. -Design K-12 Campus, $1,275,000 will be used for architectural services to design a new K-12 campus. Berkshire Local currently owns sixty acres of property where a K-12 campus.

13. Will there be any costs incurred as a result of maintaining and sustaining the project after June 30th of your grant year?

Sustainability costs include any ongoing spending related to the grant project after June 30th of your grant year. Examples of sustainability costs include annual professional development, equipment maintenance, and software license agreements. To every extent possible, rationale for the specific amounts given should be outlined. The costs outlined in the narrative section should be consistent and verified by the financial documentation submitted and explained in the Financial Impact Table. If the project does not have sustainability costs, applicants should explain why.

Yes - If yes, provide a narrative explanation of your sustainability costs as detailed in the Financial Impact Table in the box below.

Normal operational costs will occur, yet due to the economies of scale when applied will reduce the overall cost expenditures experienced by the districts overall expenditures. Please see the attached financial impact for specific financial details.

No - If no, please explain why (i.e. maintenance plan included in purchase price of equipment) in the box below.

14. Will there be any expected savings as a result of implementing the project?

Yes

No

Applicants with sustainability costs in question 13 or seeking to achieve significant advancement in spending reductions in the five-year forecast must address this response. Expected savings should match the information provided by the applicant in the Financial Impact Table. All spending reductions must be verifiable, permanent, and credible. Applicants may only respond "No" if the project will not incur any increased costs as a result of maintaining and sustaining the project after June 30th of your grant year. The Governing Board will use the cost savings as a tiebreaker between applications with similar scores during its final selection process. Cost savings will be calculated as the amount of expected cost savings less sustainability costs relative to the project budget.

2,666,167.00 If yes, specify the amount of annual expected savings. If no, enter 0.

If yes, provide details on the expected savings (i.e. staff counts and salary/benefits, equipment to be purchased and cost, etc.). If no, please explain

Currently, we believe a savings of $2.6 million in costs will be realized within the first two years of operation. We will be able to reduce duplication of services that will result in employment of only: Certified Staff Classified Staff Superintendent Treasurer Principal - HS Guidance Counselor Athletic Director Transportation Manager Transportation Mechanic Coaches/Clubs Supplemental Maintenance Supervisor Special Education Director School Nurse Treasurer Staff Superintendent Secretary School Physiologist Emis Coord. Teaching and non-teaching staff will be consolidated as the enrollment numbers dict ate in grade levels and subject areas.

15. Provide a brief explanation of how the project is self-sustaining.

All Straight A Fund grant projects must be expenditure neutral. For applications with increased ongoing spending as documented in question 11-14, this spending must be offset by expected savings or reallocation of existing resources. These spending reductions must be verifiable, permanent, and credible. This information must match the information provided in your Financial Impact Table. Projected additional income may not be used to offset increased ongoing spending because additional income is not allowed by statute. Please consider inflationary costs like salaries and maintenance fees when considering whether increased ongoing spending has been offset for at least five years after June 30th of your grant year. For applications without increased ongoing spending as documented in questions 11-14, please demonstrate how you can sustain the project without incurring any increased ongoing costs.

For educational service centers and county boards of developmental disabilities that are members of a consortium, any increased ongoing spending at the educational service center or county board of developmental disabilities may also be offset with the verifiable, permanent, and credible spending reductions of other members of the consortium. This increased ongoing spending must be less than or equal to the sum of the spending reductions for the entire consortium.

Explain in detail how this project will sustain itself for at least five years after June 30th of your grant year.

To measure the success of this project would ultimately be the successful consolidation of Berkshire and Newbury Schools. With the evidence in the financial forecast the economies of scale will be proven by the savings of $2.6 million. With the larger tax base and reduced spending there will be a reduction in the number of times the new district will have to go to the voters for levy funds.

D) IMPLEMENTATION - Timeline, scope of work and contingency planning

16. Please provide a brief description of the team or individuals responsible for the implementation of this project, including other consortium members and/or partners.

This response should include a list of qualifications for the applicant and others associated with the grant. If the application is for a consortium or a partnership, the lead should provide information on its ability to manage the grant in an effective and efficient manner. Include the partner/consortium members’ qualifications, skills and experience with innovative project implementation and projects of similar scope.
Enter Implementation Team information by clicking the link below:

**Add Implementation Team**

**For Questions 17-19 please describe each phase of your project, including its timeline, scope of work, and anticipated barriers to success.**

A complete response to these questions will demonstrate specific awareness of the context in which the project will be implemented, the major barriers that need to be overcome and the time it will take to implement the project with fidelity. A strong plan for implementing, communicating and coordinating the project should be outlined, including coordination and communication in and amongst members of the consortium or partnership (if applicable). It is recognized that specific action steps may not be included, but the outline of the major implementation steps should demonstrate a thoughtful plan for achieving the goals of the project. The timeline should reflect significant and important milestones in an appropriate and reasonable time frame.

17. Planning - Activities prior to the grant implementation  
* Date Range: August 2014-July 2015

* List of scope of work (activities and/or events including project evaluation discussions, communication and coordination among entities).

Beginning Aug 2014: Hiring market firm and K-12 campus design begins September 2014: Community based events held in both districts to educate the public about consolidation. Key community stakeholders, students and educators from both districts will be key leaders in the implementation and buy-in of the local residents. November 2014: presentation to the state board of education board for approval to have consolidation go to the ballot in May 2015 November 2014-May 2015: Continued community events, joint school activities, continued K-12 campus design, statistical analysis, strategic analysis, staffing development and operational evaluations. May 2015: The communities of Berkshire and Newbury vote on consolidation July 2015: New school commences, Newbury High School closes and all 7th-12th grade students will be housed at the existing Jr. Sr High School. The current barriers are community members wanting to keep their school identity, lack of support for levies in the past and parents viewing the school inferior in the opposing community and potential tax implications. With the marketing firm, having student led councils that are blended between the two districts and having key community stakeholders become leaders in this process our goal is affirm with community that the financial numbers speak volumes to the continued stability of quality educational options in their communities and that together we can create a great learning environment for the student by going through the consolidation process.

* Anticipated barriers to successful completion of the planning phase

The current barrier is community involvement and activism. Based on past levy campaigns in both consortium districts, only about 33% of registered voters actually voted. This history of public participation and improving on civic involvement will be the goal of our student lead and hired marketing groups. Focusing on the cost savings and curricular advantages to consolidation will help overcome the barrier of community involvement.

18. Implementation - Process to achieve project goals  
* Date Range: August 2014-July 2015

* List of scope of work (activities and/or events, including deliverables, project milestones, interim measurements, communication, and coordination).

Beginning Aug 2014: Hiring market firm and K-12 campus design begins September 2014: Community based events held in both districts to educate the public about consolidation. Key community stakeholders, students and educators from both districts will be key leaders in the implementation and buy-in of the local residents. November 2014: presentation to the state board of education board for approval to have consolidation go to the ballot in May 2015 November 2014-May 2015: Continued community events, joint school activities, continued K-12 campus design, statistical analysis, strategic analysis, staffing development and operational evaluations. May 2015: The communities of Berkshire and Newbury vote on consolidation July 2015: New school commences, Newbury High School closes and all 7th-12th grade students will be housed at the existing Jr. Sr High School. The current barriers are community members wanting to keep their school identity, lack of support for levies in the past and parents viewing the school inferior in the opposing community and potential tax implications. With the marketing firm, having student led councils that are blended between the two districts and having key community stakeholders become leaders in this process our goal is affirm with community that the financial numbers speak volumes to the continued stability of quality educational options in their communities and that together we can create a great learning environment for the student by going through the consolidation process.

* Anticipated barriers to successful completion of the implementation phase.

The current barrier is community involvement and activism. Based on past levy campaigns in both consortium districts, only about 33% of registered voters actually voted. This history of public participation and improving on civic involvement will be the goal of our student lead and hired marketing groups. Focusing on the cost savings and curricular advantages to consolidation will help overcome the barrier of community involvement.

19. Summative Evaluation - Plans to analyze the results of the project  
* Date Range: August 2014- July 2015

* List of scope of work (activities and/or events, including quantitative and qualitative benchmarks and other project milestones).

Due to economies of scale the efficiency of the district will be increased because of reduction in staff, shared resources and services, there will be fixed costs spread over a greater number of students and a larger tax base will allow the new district more stability and reduction in new levies needing to be passed and the need for increased state tax dollars/ The educational evaluation will be to see an increased value added score with the new district and the ability to continue to offer a variety of educational classes for more individualized college and career readiness learning paths. A reduction in the special education report for violations of students' least restrictive environment will be measured and reduced.

* Anticipated barriers to successful completion of the summative evaluation phase.

The current barrier is community involvement and activism. Based on past levy campaigns in both consortium districts, only about 33% of
20. Describe the expected changes to the instructional and/or organizational practices in your institution.

The response should illustrate the critical instructional and/or organizational changes that will result from implementation of the grant and the impact of these changes. These changes can include permanent changes to current district processes, new processes that will be incorporated or the removal of redundant or duplicative processes. The response may also outline the expected change in behaviors of individuals (changes to classroom practice, collaboration across district boundaries, changes to a typical work day for specific staff members, etc.). The expected changes should be realistic and significant in moving the institution forward.

Please enter your response below:
Consolidation will provide many opportunities for both districts. The new district will be an optimal size for success. Educationally, consolidation will allow for increased academic offerings, increased access to technology, and increased collaboration between teachers. The district’s value added score will be increased substantially due to consolidation and the ability to personalize the learning of students through different classes and the ability to create different class structures because of increased student size. A reduction in the special education report for violations of students’ least restrictive environment will be measured and reduced. While athletics is not the main function of public education, it does add to the educational process and encourages school pride and discipline. Due to the current size of each district, it has been difficult to obtain enough students to make up a team. Many sports are not longer offered at either school.

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

The responses in this section are focused on the ability to design a method for evaluating the project’s capacity for long-term sustainable results. Therefore, the questions focus on the method of defining the problem(s) the project hopes to solve and the measures that will determine if the problem (s) have been solved.

21. 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.

The response should provide a concise explanation of items which provide rationale that will support the probability of successfully achieving the goals of the project. Answers may differ based on the various levels of development that are possible. If the proposal is for a new, never before implemented project, the response should provide logical, coherent explanations of the anticipated results based on some past experience or rationale. For projects that have been implemented on a smaller scale or successfully in other organizations, the response should provide the quantifiable results of the other projects. If available, relevant research in support of this particular proposal should also be included.

Please enter your response below:
Consolidation will provide many opportunities for both districts. The new district will be an optimal size for success. Educationally, consolidation will allow for increased academic offerings, increased access to technology, and increased collaboration between teachers. The district’s value added score will be increased substantially due to consolidation and the ability to personalize the learning of students through different classes and the ability to create different class structures because of increased student size. A reduction in the special education report for violations of students’ least restrictive environment will be measured and reduced. While athletics is not the main function of public education, it does add to the educational process and encourages school pride and discipline. Due to the current size of each district, it has been difficult to obtain enough students to make up a team. Many sports are not longer offered at either school.

22. Describe the overall plan to evaluate the impact of the concept, strategy or approaches used in the project.

This plan should include the methodology for measuring all of the project outcomes. Applicants should make sure to outline quantitative approaches to assess progress and measure the overall impact of the project proposal. The response should provide a clear outline of the methods, process, timelines and data requirements for the final analysis of the project’s progress, success or failure. The applicant should provide information on how the lessons learned from the project can and will be shared with other education providers in Ohio.

* Include the name and contact information of the person who will be responsible for conducting the evaluation and whether this will be an internal or external evaluation.

Dawn Nielsen and Beth McCaffery- 440-834-3380 Due to economies of scale the efficiency of the district will be increased because of reduction in staff, shared resources and services, there will be fixed costs spread over a greater number of students and a larger tax base will allow the new district more stability and reduction in new levies needing to be passed and the need for increased state tax dollars. The educational evaluation will be to see an increased value added score with the new district and the ability to continue to offer a variety of educational classes for more individualized college and career readiness learning paths. A reduction in the special education report for violations of students’ least restrictive environment will be measured and reduced.

* 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 project’s progress).

The financial savings will be measured once the two districts consolidate in July 2015 and going forward each fiscal year. The academic measure will be measured through baseline data from statewide testing and SLO data with an expected increase of 2-5% each school calendar year. This will lead to an increase in teacher effectiveness through the OTES process.

* Include the method, process and/or procedure by which the project will modify or change the project plan if measured progress is insufficient to meet project objectives.

If the student growth is not to the expected measure after two years then additional professional development will be implemented. This will be covered through a portion of the cost savings from the consolidation.
23. Describe the substantial value and lasting impact which the project hopes to achieve.

The response should provide specific quantifiable measures of the grant outcomes and how the project will lead to successful attainment of the project goals. Applicants should describe how the program or project will continue after the grant period has expired.

Please enter your response below.

Consolidation will provide many opportunities for both districts. The new district will be an optimal size for success. Educationally, consolidation will allow for increased academic offerings, increased access to technology and increased collaboration between teachers. The district's value added score will be increased substantially due to consolidation and the ability to personalize the learning of students through different classes and the ability to create different class structures because of increased student size. A reduction in the special education report for violations of students' least restrictive environment will be measured and reduced. While athletics is not the main function of public education, it does add to the educational process and encourages school pride and discipline. Due to the current size of each district, it has been difficult to obtain enough students to make up a team. Many sports are not longer offered at either school.

24. Describe the specific benchmarks, by goal as answered in question 9, which 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.

The applicant should provide details on the quantifiable measures of short- and long-term objectives that will be tracked and the source of benchmark comparative data points. Responses should include specified measurement periods and preliminary success points that will be used to validate successful implementation of the project. If a similar project has been successfully implemented in other districts or schools, identification of these comparable benchmarks should be included.

* Student Achievement

| 2014/2015: The baseline for all SLO data and statewide testing from both districts will be measured as a baseline comparison for the 2015/2016 school year. 2015/2016: SLO data from the new district will be compared to the baseline data collected from the consortium districts in 2014/2015. Expected student growth improvement of 2%-5% for the first year of consolidation. 2016/2017: Continue to look at SLO data with an expected increase of 1% over last year's data. 2017/2018: Continue to look at SLO data with an expected increase of 1% over last year's data. |
| 2014/2015: n/a 2015/2016: The new school district will inherit all equipment from the Newbury JR/SR high school building and this will be dispersed throughout the entire district. First annual expected savings $2.6 million. 2016/2017: Annual expected savings $400,000.00 2017/2018: Annual expected savings $400,000.00 |
| 2014/2015: n/a 2015/2016: Consolidation of consortium districts will allow for greater shared resources in the classroom including mobile learning devices and auxiliary technology, supplemental curricular resources, infrastructure and hardware pertaining to supporting classroom technologies. 2016/2017: Continued use of best resources consolidated from consortium districts enhanced with purchases using money saved in the consolidation process. 2017/2018: Continued use of best resources consolidated from consortium districts enhanced with purchases using money saved in the consolidation process. |
| 2014/2015: n/a 2015/2016: The baseline for all SLO data and statewide testing from both districts will be measured as a baseline comparison for the 2015/2016 school year. 2015/2016: SLO data from the new district will be compared to the baseline data collected from the consortium districts in 2014/2015. Expected student growth improvement of 2%-5% for the first year of consolidation. 2016/2017: Continue to look at SLO data with an expected increase of 1% over last year's data. 2017/2018: Continue to look at SLO data with an expected increase of 1% over last year's data. |
| n/a |

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

* Yes

* No

If the applicant selects "Yes" to the first part of the question, the response should provide an explanation of the time and effort it would take to implement the project in another district, as well as any plans to share lessons learned with other districts. To every extent possible, applicants should outline how this project can become part of a model so that other districts across the state can take advantage of the learnings from the proposed innovative project. If there is a plan to increase the scale and scope of the project within the district or consortium, it should be included here.

* Explain your response

Yes, we believe that more and more schools in Ohio will be forced to consolidate due to declining enrollment. We believe that our efforts will provide a roadmap as to the legalities, processes and successes of consolidation. Consolidation has been successfully replicated in the state of Pennsylvania, we hope to have the same success with our districts to increase the success for the students in our area.

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 time frame. The Governing Board of the Straight A Fund reserves the right to conduct an evaluation of the project and request additional information in the form of data, surveys, interviews, focus groups and other related data on behalf of the General Assembly, Governor and other interested parties for an overall evaluation of the Straight A Fund.

PROGRAM ASSURANCES: I agree, on behalf of this applicant, and any or all identified consortium members or partners, that all supporting documents contain information approved by a relevant executive board or its equivalent and to abide by all assurances outlined in the Straight A Assurances (available in the document library section of the CCIP). I agree, on behalf of this applicant, and any or all identified consortium members or partners, that all supporting documents contain information approved by a relevant executive board or its equivalent and to abide by all assurances outlined in the Straight A Assurances.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First Name</th>
<th>Last Name</th>
<th>Telephone Number</th>
<th>Email Address</th>
<th>Organization Name</th>
<th>IRN</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Delete Contact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Richard</td>
<td>Wagner</td>
<td>(440) 564-5501</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rwagner@newburyschools.org">rwagner@newburyschools.org</a></td>
<td>Newbury Local</td>
<td>047217</td>
<td>14775 Auburn Rd, Newbury, OH, 44065-9702</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
No partners added yet. Please add a new partner by using the form below.
# Implementation Team

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First Name</th>
<th>Last Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Responsibilities</th>
<th>Qualifications</th>
<th>Prior Relevant Experience</th>
<th>Delete Contact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beth</td>
<td>McCaffery</td>
<td>Berkshire School Treasurer</td>
<td>Financial Implementation</td>
<td>School Treasurer</td>
<td>five years of school treasurer experience</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richard</td>
<td>Wagner</td>
<td>Superintendent</td>
<td>Roll out of consolidation</td>
<td>Superintendent for over 10+ years.</td>
<td>Superintendent and other educational roles in numerous Ohio schools.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dawn</td>
<td>Nielsen</td>
<td>Director of Special Education/Curriculum/Assessment/Federal Budgets</td>
<td>Roll out of curriculum alignment and special education services and improvements</td>
<td>Principal PreK-12 certification</td>
<td>Eight years in a variety of teaching and administrative positions in Ohio Schools.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doug</td>
<td>Delong</td>
<td>Superintendent</td>
<td>Roll out of consolidation</td>
<td>Superintendent of Berkshire Schools for 10 years</td>
<td>Chardon High School Principal and educator</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>