

Enhancing Education Through Technology

Request for Proposal

Narrative Responses for

Needs Assessment

Specify the educational need(s) that the project addresses, and indicate how the need(s) was/were identified. Include any relevant data to substantiate the need(s). Indicate the target population.

1. To expand technology based programs in our high need schools.
2. To expand access to technologies to grades at both the elementary and middle school levels for students and teachers.
3. To offer quality technology based professional development that will provide our teachers and principals the capacity to integrate technology effectively into curricula and instruction that are aligned with challenging Pennsylvania state academic standards.
4. To support the rigorous evaluation of projects supported with program funds, particularly regarding the impact of such projects on student academic achievement, and ensure that timely information on the results of such evaluations is widely accessible through electronic means.

Educational Goals

Educational Goals: Part A Ranking

Indicate which priorities your goals address (check up to 4). Rank those four with 1 your top choice and four your last choice).

Increasing student learning in mathematics

Increasing levels of student literacy

Increasing technology literacy of students

4

Building the capacity of schools to use technology effectively

2

Building the capacity of teachers to use technology effectively through sound professional development

3

Increasing the integration of effective technology use into classroom practice

1

Increasing technology-enabled data driven decision making by school leaders

Research-proven intervention to improve student academic achievement in mathematics.

Developing new models for assessing the impact of technology on the ability of the system to use technology effectively

Developing new or applying existing technology-related learning based on research

Educational Goals: Part B Specific Goals

Describe your specific goals as they relate to your educational needs statement, your local technology plan, and to your district's effort to promote and implement standards-aligned systems.

Our plan is to install and implement access to Smartboard technology into Grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8. This technology, coupled with professional development will allow our teachers to provide more effective instruction which utilizes the latest technology and increases student learning and technology literacy. This is in accordance with our recently submitted (2008) e-Strategic Plan.

Activities

Activities: Part A Integrate Technology Effectively

Explain how you will identify and promote educational strategies that integrate technology effectively into curricula and instruction, based on a review of relevant research. The educational strategies should assist you to meet your educational goals and to improve academic achievement as measured by challenging academic achievement standards.

Educational strategies and the integration of technology will become evident in instruction and learning. Research suggests that multimedia presentations increase motivation for learning as it is a 21st century learning skill. Digital learning increases the capabilities for replicating presentations, editing, and note taking as well as the integration of video streaming. Collaborative learning, enhanced by digital learning, can be a high leverage practice for student achievement. Direct, explicit instruction, is a very viable mode of teaching and learning and is greatly enhanced when multi media approaches can be used.

Although a wealth of longitudinal research is not available, current edited and juried articles encompass a variety of studies about the positive impact of current technology across curricular areas; across grade levels; and for students in both regular and special education.

Activities: Part B Access to Technology

Indicate the steps you will take to ensure that students and teachers in schools served by the LEA, particularly those with the greatest need, have access to technology and are prepared to utilize technology effectively in the classroom.

All schools in our school district (LEA) have a high percentage of students receiving free and reduced lunches. In order to make certain these students have access, every classroom in Grades 3 to 5 will have technology enhanced for student and teacher use. Additionally, all students will have access in our middle school core subject rooms as well.

As a result of the Smart Boards being installed and the teachers receiving professional development in their effective use, the access and learning opportunities will be accessible for all students throughout the school day and year.

Activities: Part C Commitment of the Population to the Intervention

Explain how you will ensure the commitment of the teachers, administration, and students to the intervention; describe how you will ensure the readiness of the school(s), and the school culture to embrace the technology-based intervention.

100 percent of teachers in Grades 3 through 5 as well as those teachers in Grades 6 through 8 receiving Smart Boards will receive professional development in their effective use in instruction. In addition, one building principal not yet trained in these technologies will also receive professional development in their effective use.

It should be noted that the impact of such training will transcend to other grades and content areas.

Activities: Part D

**Select up to 3 of the following innovation(s) that best describe your proposal.

**

The development and utilization of innovative strategies for the delivery of specialized or rigorous academic courses and curricula through the use of technology including distance-learning applications.

No

Research-proven intervention to improve student academic achievement in reading

No

Research-proven intervention to improve student academic achievement in mathematics

No

Acquisition, development, interconnection, implementation, improvement, and maintenance of an effective educational technology infrastructure in a manner that expands access to technology for disadvantaged students and teachers who work with high risk students

Yes

Professional development of school teachers, principals, and administrators to build capacity to integrate technology effectively into curricula and instruction that are aligned with challenging State academic content and student academic achievement standards

Yes

Provide constant access to training and updated research in teaching and learning for educators through electronic means

Yes

Develop rigorous evaluation of technology-related projects supported with program funds, particularly regarding the impact of such projects on student academic achievement, and ensure that timely information on the results of such evaluations is widely accessible through electronic means.

No

To support local efforts using technology to promote parent and family involvement in education and communication among students, parents, teachers, principals, and administrators.

No

Professional Development

Describe how you will provide high-quality, sustained professional development for teachers, principals, administrators, and/or school library media personnel serving the LEA to ensure and further the effective use of technology at all points of learning. Include a list of partners instrumental in the delivery of the professional development and the resources involved. Describe the target audience, the facilitators, and the professional development activities. Provide a timeline for the delivery of the professional development.

Prior to the commencement of the 2009-2010 school year, all teachers in the targeted grades receiving the equipment as well as all administrators will have received professional development in the effective use of technology.

The school district will utilize professional development programs developed for use in the Classrooms for the Future (CFF) program, which is already in use in our high school. This program, developed in conjunction with the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) has already proven to be successful at the high school level and will allow us to utilize an effective common technology vocabulary.

Additionally, the elementary and middle school teachers will have access to the school district's CFF Coach, IU 9 Technology Specialists, and training opportunities as they emerge through PATTAN and Governor's School.

Performance Targets

Indicate the project's performance targets and the indicators for these targets, and provide a timeline for achieving said performance targets. Ensure that your performance targets are specific, measurable, attainable, and relevant.

- Increased student performance on the PSSA in academic years 2008-09 and 2009-10 in reading, math, writing, and science.
- Increase students level of technology literacy on the National Educational Technology Standards (NETS-T) for teachers.
- Increase students level of technology literacy on the National Educational Technology Standards (NETS-S) for students.

Evaluation

Project Evaluation: Part A Impact on Students or the System

Detail the process and accountability measures, including state-required measures, that you will use to evaluate the extent to which this project's activities are effective in increasing the ability of teachers to teach and of students to meet challenging academic achievement standards through the effective integration of technology into the curricula.

The Pennsylvania State Academic Achievement Test (PSSA) scores will be analyzed in the areas of math, reading, writing, and science for increased student proficiency levels.

Project Evaluation: Part B Impact on Teachers or the System

Detail the process and accountability measures, including state-required measures, that you will use to evaluate the extent to which this project's activities are effective in increasing the ability of teachers to teach, to change classroom practices, or the program's capacity to improve the readiness of schools to use technology-based learning through the effective integration of technology into the curricula and instruction.

The administrators from the involved buildings will utilize technology based tools developed by the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE), University of Virginia, and Pennsylvania State University to measure teacher's progress. To evaluate teachers, the Teaching in Pennsylvania Record (TPR) will be used utilizing Charlotte Danielson's four domains. To measure increased use of technology in the classroom, the Classrooms for the Future (CFF) Data Collection tool will be utilized.

Project Evaluation: Part C Project Director and Project Evaluator

Discuss the qualifications of the key personnel including the project director and project evaluator.

The Project Director will be _____, Principal _____ Middle/High School, has been undergoing training in both the Classroom for the Future (CFF) program, Pennsylvania Inspired Leadership (PILs) program, and the National Institute for School Leadership (NISL). He has 17 years of administrative experience. The Project Evaluator will be _____, Principal _____ Elementary School, has overseen the development and implementation of EAP Tutoring, Accountability Block Grant (ABG), Science it's Elementary program, Pre-K Counts program, and oversees a Pennsylvania state pilot site for Response to Intervention (RtI). _____ has been undergoing training in the Pennsylvania Inspired Leadership (PILs) program, and the National Institute for School Leadership (NISL). She has 7 years of administrative experience.

Project Management

List the project management team, including credentials and responsibilities for each management member and reporting hierarchy.

The project management team will be made up of three individuals,

- _____ will serve as the Project Director and will oversee implementation in Grades 6, 7, and 8.
- _____ will serve as the Project Evaluator and will oversee implementation in Grades 3, 4, and 5.
- _____ will be responsible for implementing Professional Development activities to teacher participants and for supporting teachers in collaborative efforts throughout the project. _____ will develop and oversee implementation of technology hardware and support the staff in implementing the technology.
- _____ is currently serving as a Classroom for the Future Coach and has been and still is receiving technology training in that program. She is certified in teaching secondary social studies.

Timeline

Timeline: Part A Year 1

Provide a specific timeline that outlines all facets of the first year of the project, including hardware and software installation, professional development, curriculum integration, and assessment activities.

Upon notification of approval, our timeline will be as follows:

December 2008 - Prepare purchase orders and place orders of technology hardware.

January to March 2009 - Installation of selected hardware.

February to September 2009 - Professional Development of Staff following curriculum developed for Cohort 1 in the Classrooms for the Future Program.

December 2008 to March 2009 - Installation of hardware.

February 2009 - Perform baseline assessment for technology implementation using the CFF Data Collection Instrument.

May 2009 - Perform assessment for technology implementation using the CFF Data Collection Instrument.

February - June 2009 - Perform teacher evaluation utilizing the Teaching in Pennsylvania Record (TPR).

July 2009 - Review and analyze PSSA scores from the spring assessment.

Timeline: Part B Year 2

Provide a specific timeline that outlines all facets of the second year of the project, including hardware and software installation, professional development, curriculum integration, and assessment activities.

October to June 2010 - Professional Development of Staff following curriculum developed for Year 2 in the Classrooms for the Future Program specific to the teacher's teaching area.

October 2009 - Perform progress monitoring assessment for technology implementation using the CFF Data Collection Instrument.

May 2010 - Perform assessment for technology implementation using the CFF Data Collection Instrument.

February - June 2010 - Perform teacher evaluation utilizing the Teaching in Pennsylvania Record (TPR).

July 2010 - Review and analyze PSSA scores from the spring assessment.

Partnerships

List your partners. Provide a brief description of their roles and contributions to the success of this project, including the delivery of professional development. Illustrate how the project will be developed, if applicable, in collaboration with adult (technology) literacy providers to maximize the use of technology.

Wilkes University/PDE - We will utilize courseware developed for the Embedded Learning Academy as part of the Classroom for the Future (CFF) program.

Penn State University and University of Virginia - We will use the Data Collection tools developed as part of the CFF program to measure teacher use of technology in instruction.

Our elementary school partners with St. Bonaventure University for professional development (PDS). This is a recognized NCATE approved program. This partnership allows collaboration between higher education and our school in advancing teaching technologies.

Support

Support: Part A Acceptance

Provide a summary of activities you conducted to secure the acceptance of the project and the steps you will take to ensure its viability, within the LEA and within the community.

Our technology planning team met to discuss the viability of this program and how it fits into our e-Strategic Plan. This plan was developed with input as required by the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE), which requires various constituencies to participate, including community members and parents.

Support: Part B Resources

Detail supporting resources (such as services, software, other electronically delivered learning materials, and print resources) that will be acquired to ensure successful and effective uses of technology.

Our Technology Leadership Committee will provide much of the needed infrastructure required for successful implementation and continued success by acquiring recommended and research based software and peripheral materials. Our district maintenance staff will play a crucial part in installing the hardware as well making sure all physical plant requirements are met.

Support: Part C Leverage

Describe how you will leverage EETT funds by coordinating project activities with technology-related activities funded by other federal, state, and local sources.

This grant provides an excellent opportunity to utilize resources developed in the Classrooms for the Future Program (CFF), particular in areas of professional development.

The infrastructure put in place as part of our IU 9 Broadband Consortium will serve as the backbone for utilizing online resources.

Our school district will utilize local resources to put the technology hardware and software in classrooms not funded by this grant.

Sustainability

State your plans to sustain the project, if successful, beyond the grant period.

This project will serve as the catalyst for widespread dispersment of technology throughout the various levels of our school district. Currently, technology is weighted heavily at the high school level. This will allow us major expansion into the elementary and middle school levels for students and teachers. It will allow us to sustain our efforts for years to come.

The district previously has maintained programs originated through previous grant programs such Link to Learn, EETT and CFF and will continue to do so through local budgeted amounts dedicated to technology maintenance and enhancements.

Budget

Budget: Part A Year 1

List the types and costs of each item in your budget for year one, including services, software, and curricula. Include specific provisions for interoperability among technology components.

2200-100 Professional Development

Each participating Staff member will receive about 30 hours of training entitled "Teaching in the 21st Century--A Need for Change" as provided through Wilkes University and the CFF grant program. That will provide the foundational training that will be built upon in following years and provided linkage to high school staff being trained as part of the Classrooms of the Future Initiative.

1100-700 Smartboard Technology--11 installations

Each of the 11 classrooms will be equipped a 77" Smart Board, 2500 lumens, Ceiling Mount, Audio Speakers, DVD Video Tuner/Player. The district will supply the associated computer system.

1100-300 Installation Services

Equipment in each building will be installed, tested and calibrated by local network engineer.

The district will supply all necessary software and curricular materials through local funds because of our commitment to the program.

Budget: Part B Year 2

List the types and costs of each item in your budget for year two, including services, software, and curricula. Include specific provisions for interoperability among technology components.

Professional Development will continue to develop 21st Century Teaching skills by additional course in "Authentic Teaching in the 21st Century" in their specific content area. Additional new teachers would take the first year course.

Parents will be introduced to 1:1 Teaching Skills and Practices through specific programs focused at them.

Our PreK, K, 1, and 2 Teachers will acquire knowledge and practices through the opportunities supported by faculty collaboration.

Our K-5 Professional Development Students from St. Bonaventure University will be introduced to techniques and applications using the tools installed in year one.

The second year will see the district expanding the hardware adoption into the remaining seven middle school classrooms and the elementary computer labs.

The district will continue develop Keystone Technology Integrators and Technology Coaches to support classroom teachers.

Abstract/Feasibility

Write an abstract that serves as an overview of the proposed 2-year project. Include audience, educational needs that justify the project, learning goals, anticipated outcomes, strategies and activities that will lead to the goals, performance goals/indicators/benchmarks, evaluation methodology, and plan for sustainability.

The [redacted] proposes to increase student learning and achievement through enhanced technology as a result of the EETT grant. Although our district has built a comprehensive infrastructure for technology, imbedded learning using technology is at basic levels. High School is successfully implementing the Classroom for the Future Program, however the middle school and elementary programs have fewer technological resources.

We propose to provide professional development to all classroom teachers in grades 3-8 and provide each classroom with Smartboard units for enhancing instruction across the curriculum. This will bring 21st learning skills to our classrooms where no child will be left without digital learning opportunities. We believe that this approach of 'sameness' will greatly impact student performance as well as permeate the entire learning community. This initiative will be the catalyst for promoting sustainable change through 21st learning strategies.

[redacted] students have a standing history of making AYP but in order to keep abreast of the rising benchmarks, our teachers and students need to have the availability of effective instructional materials and the full knowledge of implementation. We believe that performance scores, reflecting student learning, will increase significantly through the sophisticated application of technology.

BUDGET DETAIL

FISCAL YEAR 2008 - 2009

ENTITY NAME :

| BUDGET CATEGORIES | ITEM | UNIT COST | # TO BE PURCHASED | TOTAL COST | SCHOOL BUILDING |
|--|--|-----------|-------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| Instructional Equipment (including Small and Attractive Items), over \$1500 per unit | Multi media Smart board Installation for 7 rooms | 2,250.00 | 7 | \$15,750.00 | |
| Instructional Equipment (including Small and Attractive Items), over \$1500 per unit | Multi Media Smart Board Installation for 4 rooms | 2,250.00 | 4 | \$9,000.00 | |
| Technical Support Services | Installation and set-up and testing of equipment | 310.00 | 1 | \$310.00 | |
| Technical Support Services | Installation and set-up and testing of equipment | 105.00 | 1 | \$105.00 | |
| Personnel assigned Professional Development Salaries Teachers | Teacher stipends for after hour training 30 hours each for 7 staff | 28.00 | 210 | \$5,880.00 | |
| Personnel assigned Professional Development Salaries Teachers | Teacher stipends fo after hour training 30 hours each for 4 staff | 28.00 | 120 | \$3,360.00 | |
| Indirect Cost | Indirect Costs | 595.00 | 1 | \$595.00 | |
| TOTAL | | | | \$35,000.00 | |

Enhancing Education Through Technology
Request for Proposal
General Assurances for

General Assurances

The applicant has a current, state-approved technology plan.

The applicant has reviewed the Guidelines prior to submitting an application.

The applicant is CIPA-compliant.

The applicant agrees to meet the state and federally required components of the Title II Part D Enhancing Education Through Technology Competitive Grant.