Grant Proposal

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Current Educational Environment

Kidder Elementary is one of the elementary schools in the Brunswick City School District in Brunswick, Ohio. It serves nearly 500 students from preschool ages to fifth grade. Brunswick has recently created a one-to-one technology initiative in the last two years. It began in the high school and has slowly developed to younger grades. Students grades 3 and up now rent Chromebooks from the district and are able take them home to complete assignments, including on extended breaks. Younger grades have a chromebook cart that their students can use throughout the school day. In addition, the teachers have the option to choose an HP computer or Macbook Air to use as their school computer. Overall, technology is widely available in Brunswick City Schools.

Recently, the district made the decision to also utilize the Google Calendar in place of agendas for the students. While the district had been utilizing the Google Apps for Education for a number of years, it was a transition for many of the teachers, students, and parents. Since many teachers already use Google Classroom for their materials, it was a fairly simple transition to create "assignments" with due dates to show on the student's calendar. However, the transition has been difficult for many teachers who were not utilizing it fully. Our district offered professional development to assist with the transition and additional training on Google Apps for Education.

Limitations

While our district is very supportive of technology needs and advances, it is not always considered that it may not impact all students in the same way. For example, not all students will

benefit from having their own personal Chromebook to be responsible for. On the other hand, some students will thrive with this addition. There are many different forms of technology that the district is yet to explore, such as PlayAway Bookpacks. While the district has considered technology that can affect all content areas, they also need to think of smaller sets that can have a deeper impact on a specific skill set.

Need

Technology in the classroom is an important aspect in the classroom for students gaining 21st century skills. Technology is the future and when it is introduced into the classroom at and early age students become motivated and excited about learning. I would love to incorporate iPads into my classroom. This will give my students the opportunity to use creative programs to help them in all areas. They will also be able to find information quickly and work with others in centers. Studies have also shown that test scores improve with the use of iPads in the classroom. While the students have Chromebooks, there are many different applications available on iPads. The iPads would allow for deeper differentiation within the classroom.

Goals of Proposal

Funding for the iPads will be sought from the Martha Holden Jennings Foundation's Grants to Educators program. The goal of the grant proposal is to obtain technology tools to utilize a small set of iPads in my fifth grade classroom at Kidder Elementary. This set of iPads would not only affect one classroom, but all fifth grade classrooms. In addition, we frequently

pair up with younger grades to teach various lessons to them or help with any activity and these iPads would also be accessible to those classes.

The instructional goal of the iPads will be to increase reading and writing skills. We will utilize these tools during our Language Arts classes. There are many applications to work on various reading comprehension skills, vocabulary, fluency, and phonics practice if the students need it. The training goals for this would be minimal. I am already well-versed with the use of iPads and since the students are digital natives, they will not need much assistance either. The technological goals would follow the ISTE standards through the use of iPads:

- Students will demonstrate creative thinking, construct knowledge, and develop innovative products and processes using technology.
- Students will apply existing knowledge to generate new ideas, products, or processes.
- Students will apply digital tools to gather, evaluate, and use information.
- Students will use digital media and environments to communicate and work collaboratively, including at a distance, to support individual learning and contribute to the learning of others.
- Students will interact, collaborate, and publish with peers, experts, or others employing a variety of digital environments and media.
- Students will use multiple processes and diverse perspectives to explore alternative solutions.
- Students will demonstrate a sound understanding of technology concepts, systems, and operations.

Technology Proposal

Student achievement can be enhanced through many application and great websites like BrainPop and Reading Eggs. This grant will help me improve my teaching effectiveness by using my Master's Degree in technology to help my students gain skills need in the classroom. I am requesting a set of eight iPads to use in the classroom. I am requesting the most up to date model to avoid costs in the near future for software update and hardware replacements. The applications and websites we would utilize through the iPads support student's growth and achievement in all areas through an engaging and interactive way. I am also preparing students for real world experiences. This is also a great tool for students to use independently and receive immediate feedback. This is important for young students to fix their mistakes immediately and gain confidence while I am working with another small group. Students will also use the iPad's in groups will they will practice working as a team and taking turns. This will improve the students' leadership skills and team work skills.

Personal Qualifications

Currently, this school year is be my sixth year teaching. My first year I taught third grade in Lorain City Schools where we had open access to iPads with every lesson. The past school years, I have been teaching fifth grade Language Arts. This seems to be a permanent position and I want to use this project to improve my student's skills in all subject areas. My experience in third grade with iPads will help me understand what skills my fifth graders will need and various applications that are beneficial. I am also working on my Master's Degree which is in Instructional Technology, or the use of technology in the classroom. The iPads will be a great

technology tool to help prepare my students for the future and I will be able to seamlessly

transition them into our classroom.

Implementation Timeline

The implementation of the classroom iPads will be executed as follows:

Action Step	**Date to be Completed**
Grant Approved / District Receives Funds	August 2019
Inventory Ordered	October 2019
Teacher Acquisition / "Training" Teacher will begin loading various applications onto iPads and plan implementation through lesson plans.	November/December 2019
Student Implementation Pre-assessments will be given to the students to gauge their learning throughout the usage of the iPads. Students will be introduced to the iPads. They will go through training on how to use them (taking video, viewing websites/apps for class). Students will begin to use/practice using iPads.	December 2019
Students will continue to use iPads. Throughout the year, they will begin to be more independent using the iPads and will be responsible for recording various responses.	January 2020 - May 2020
Evaluation & Student Feedback Post-Assessments will be given to the students to gain data on their learning throughout the usage of the iPads. Students will provides comments on the use of technology. They will have an opportunity to suggest other ways the iPads could be used in class.	May 2020
Based on Evaluation, iPads implementation will be altered and continued use in upcoming school years.	May 2020 - ongoing

Budget

The following items will need be purchased. There will be no additional request for software because we will utilize free applications to improve our reading and writing skills. In addition, no funding will be needed for teacher training. There is no additional funding request for tax or shipping because the school district is Tax-Free and is an Amazon Prime member.

Item	Price Per Unit	Quantity	Total Price
Apple iPad 9.7-inch Retina display A10 Fusion chip with 64-bit desktop-class architecture 8MP camera with 1080p video and HD camera 802.11ac Wi-Fi with MIMO Up to 10 hours of battery life Two speaker audio	**$270.00** through Amazon Business	**8**	**$2,160.00**

Evaluation and Assessment

The use of iPads will be evaluated on a few different levels. The overall effectiveness will be evaluated by the student growth through the use of iPads over the course of the school year. The student-data will be gathered by the use of a pre-test and post-test on student achievement. The assessments will consist of the same questions to genuinely show student growth. In addition, data can be gathered by standardized assessments and the growth each student makes. We will compare this data to the classrooms who are not using the iPads. However, individual application success will be recorded by the teacher on a checklist. While the students are using the iPads, I will have a checklist of engagement, partners they worked with, and other observations made during the time. There will also be a survey for the students at the end of the

school year to allow them input for how to utilize the iPads in class and their opinions on how they were used this year. These strategies will allow me to evaluate the success of iPads in my classroom and if they are affecting my students' scores positively or negatively.

Continuation and Extension

The purchases made will not only affect one year of students. This will hopefully be the beginning of deeper differentiation and individualized lessons for years to come. There are many free applications and websites I will still be able to use each year. Also, many applications would be very cheap for me to continue to buy for my classroom year after year. The technology team in Brunswick is very good at giving support and would be able to help me keep the iPads running properly. I will review all the projects I used with my fifth graders and reflect on what worked and what didn't work so I can make changes as needed.