

Motivation, Enrichment, and Intervention Across the Curriculum: Educational Foundation Grant

Sebastian River Middle School (SRMS) Letter of Idea

Amount Requested: **\$9969.80**

Total Project Cost: **\$9969.80**

Targeted Population: **SRMS Students across Science, Social Studies, and Language Arts - All Levels**

Number of Children Served: **970 Students (Grades 6, 7, 8)**

Summary

Sebastian River Middle School is situated in Sebastian, Florida. The student population is 970 with a 51% minority rate. Further, the free-and-reduced lunch rate is 72%. This rate is liable to be higher as many parents do not wish to identify their economic situation, or they do not have the skills to complete said application. It is believed that 80% would be a better indicator of the free-and-reduced lunch rate percentage. As for student achievement, the 2017-18 data revealed English Language Arts only 51% proficient. In addition, Social Studies student achievement is 65% proficient, and Science is 45% proficient.

In 2016-17, SRMS embarked upon Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) built to intervene in student literacy, rather than remediate after the fact. This intervention was deemed important by educational theorist, Richard DuFour (2004). The PLCs, named **Content Area Literacy Skills (CALs)** facilitated rich literacy dialogue across Language Arts, Social Studies, and Science because all content areas can benefit from embedding literacy strategies into their instruction. As such, this grant with extra resources, motivating content, and enrichment will carry on the CALs' work from the previous year and will be sustained with other sources, such as the parent teacher organization and further grants.

Issue

Literacy is a primary issue at SRMS because of student achievement in a population of students with English which is not their native language and the high free-and-reduced lunch rate. The purpose of CALs was to collaborate on ways to uniformly address literacy needs across the curriculum. In 2016-17, CALs' teachers adopted the methods to answer questions with skills that could be of lifelong benefit. Students were instructed to uniformly restate the question and cite text evidence, among other strategies.

Change

While the connection between the previous year's growth and the strategies used in 2016-17 growth is not known, it is not improbable that the CALs' dialogue helped to facilitate the gains. And there are so many more gains needed. Adding on to last year, the 2017-18 CALs groups created robust communication and collaboration among grade levels that led to the revelation that teachers needed more resources, such as assessments that isolate the standard and vocabulary resources to enhance and provide background knowledge. **This grant will continue the work from the previous year with further resources to help facilitate student growth and gains with deeper literacy interventions with supports and supplements to the curriculum already in place.**

Action

Part One

To intervene in deficiencies, teachers have identified instructional materials based on iReady, the district remediation software, and other resources to address standards-instruction at deeper levels in small group interventions. This concentrated practice will reinforce essential reading strategies, isolating the standard with engaging passages. Further, content areas (Science and Social Studies) have looked for standard vocabulary resources (Passwords to Social Studies: to create uniform academic vocabulary vital to student achievement).

Part Two

It is not just the 49% of low readers who need enrichment and motivation. SRMS has identified Myon.com, an award-winning personalized literacy environment that incorporates the following literacy

components: A state-of-the art learning platform, enhanced digital reading content, the Lexile Framework for Reading, cutting-edge literacy tools, and embedded metrics to monitor activity and growth. Other features include personalized learning, unlimited access, and 13,000 texts. An attractive feature is the app where students can download their books to read with or without access to WIFI.

Grant Steps

1. Instructing with small groups with standards-based materials (Focus on Reading and Cars and Stars) at an even deeper-level than at present with guided practice.
2. Instructing vocabulary across the curriculum (Social Studies and Science)
3. Motivating Reading Platform available to all students rolled out with PD and monitoring.
4. Monitoring the grant with Unit Assessment Data and FSA results.
5. Sustaining the grant with the parent/teacher organization and further grants.

Grant Housekeeping and Grant Oversight and Progress Monitoring: Ms. LaToya Bullard, Dr. Twila D. Patten, Ms. Jody Idlette-Brown, Mr. James Thimmer. **Grant Progress Monitoring will be via Unit Assessments and FSA Results.**

Line-by Line Budget

Language Arts

Focus on Reading

| | | |
|-----------------------|---------|-----------------|
| Book F (6) Collection | WS10530 | \$244.00 |
| Book G (7) Collection | WS10531 | \$244.00 |
| Book H (8) Collection | WS10532 | \$244.00 |
| Total | | \$732.00 |

Cars/ Stars

| | | |
|-----------------------|---------|-------------------|
| Book F (6) Collection | WS12382 | \$339.00 |
| Book G (7) Collection | WS12383 | \$339.00 |
| Book H (8) Collection | WS12384 | \$339.00 |
| Total | | \$1,017.00 |

Ready Florida LAFS Assessment

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|---------------------|-----------|----------------|
| Grade 6 Single (3) | WS16148 | \$15.00 |
| Grade 6 Teacher (3) | WS16148.9 | \$18.00 |
| Grade 7 Single (3) | WS16149 | \$15.00 |
| Grade 7 Teacher (3) | WS16149.9 | \$18.00 |
| Grade 8 Single (3) | WS16150 | \$15.00 |
| Grade 8 Teacher (3) | WS16150.9 | \$18.00 |
| Total | | \$99.00 |

Science

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|--------------------|---------------------------|---------|
| Sciencesaurus (80) | ISBN-13/EAN: 978054405840 | \$37.90 |
|--------------------|---------------------------|---------|

\$3,032.00

Social Studies

Passwords: Social Studies Vocabulary

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| World Geography and Cultures Student 6 (3) | WS10664 | \$23.85 |
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World Geography and Cultures Teacher 6 (3)

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|--|-----------|---------|
| WS10664.9 | \$50.85 | |
| Ancient Civilizations 6 Student (3) | WS10665 | \$23.85 |
| Ancient Civilizations 6 Teacher (3) | WS10665.9 | \$50.85 |
| U.S. History: Constitution to 1920 7 Student (3) | WS10843 | \$23.85 |
| U.S. History: Constitution to 1920 7 Teacher (3) | WS10843.9 | \$50.85 |

U.S. History: Beginnings to the Present 8 Student (3)

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|---|------------|-----------------|
| WS10661 | \$23.85 | |
| U.S. History: Beginnings to the Present 8 Teacher (3) | WS10661.9 | \$50.85 |
| Total | | \$224.10 |
| MyOn Digital Platform | \$4,865.70 | |

Total Amount of Grant \$9,969.80

Total