

STORM GROVE MIDDLE SCHOOL

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Name of Project: 21st Century Seating for 21st Century Learning

Additional Information about the Project: This project is to provide students in 17 classrooms with Flexible Seating options. The flexible seating could include beanbag chairs, balance ball desk chairs, air stability wobble cushions, yoga bolster pillows, wobble chairs (stools), bungee chair, standing desks, foot pedals for under the desk, etc.

Amount Requested: \$10,000

Total Project Cost: We would like to provide all classrooms with flexible seating at some point. This type of seating is very expensive but the costs of each type of seat vary. We believe we can provide alternative seats for each of the 17 classrooms targeted for \$10,000. The overall project will be ongoing each year until we can provide every classroom with flexible seating.

Targeted Population: Research has shown that alternative seating has increased productivity in all children. Our target population will be all students at Storm Grove Middle School. We selected the Reading, Language Arts and 2 business classes to kick off this initiative. This allows us to reach every student at some point in the day.

Number of children to be served and grade level: Since we have decided to target the Language Arts classes we will be able to serve all Storm Grove students throughout the day.

6th grade – 364 students

7th grade – 329 students

8th grade – 315 students

Total Students – 1008

Succinct Summary:

The issue we have seen is that students are sitting in straight back chairs/desks for seven hours a day. Research shows that students who have alternatives to seating are more engaged, more focus, and more productive.

The change we intend to see is students more focused, engaged and productive. We also expect that referrals will decrease. When students have the opportunity to “fidget”, stand or change seats they are less likely to cause disruptions in class. Additionally, there will still be traditional seating in the classroom so seating choices can also be used as positive behavior incentives.

The other strategic activities would be for the teachers with to learn the strategies and uses of flexible seating as well as know the research behind it.

Grant Oversight: The administrative team along with the behavior specialist and the department chairs for reading and Language Arts would be responsible for the oversight of the project. These leaders would work to

build sustainability through inservice opportunities with other departments moving forward to implement flexible seating in more classrooms each year.

Monitoring Progress and Results: Teachers will monitor and report the data from their own classroom minor incidents and the administration will look at the discipline referrals for students sent out of class before the seating and after. We will also review FSA and CTE testing data to see if the flexible seating has increased student test scores.

Itemized Budget:

Item	Cost	Number	Extended Cost
Intex Empire Inflatable Chair, 44" X 43" X 27"	\$26.00	2 per class = 34	\$884.00
Drive Medical Exercise Peddler with Attractive Silver Vein Finish	\$18.00	6 per class = 102	\$1836.00
Inflated Stability Wobble Cushion, Including Free Pump / Exercise Fitness Core Balance Disc	\$17.00	4 per class = 68	\$1156.00
Peace Yoga Zafu Meditation Yoga Buckwheat Filled Round Cotton Bolster Pillow Cushion	\$23.00	3 per class = 51	\$1173.00
Exercise Ball - Pro Gym Quality 2000lbs Anti-Burst Birthing Ball, Ball Chair, Yoga Pilate Balance Ball with Pump, Extra Thick Static Strength Stability Ball	\$18.00	6 per class = 102	\$1836.00
NOSIVA Table Riser Legs	\$27.00	2 per class = 34	\$918.00
Urban Shop Bungee Chair, Grey	\$44.00	2 per class = 34	\$1496.00
Total before shipping			\$9299.00

These prices were all on Amazon so there is some room for flexibility in the pricing and shipping.

There is a significant amount of research on the benefits of flexible seating. I have included just a few links below.

<https://www.edutopia.org/blog/flexible-seating-student-centered-classroom-kayla-delzer>

<http://ideas.demco.com/blog/top-3-reasons-use-flexible-seating-classroom/>

<http://neatoday.org/2016/09/23/ditching-classroom-desks/>

<https://www.nytimes.com/2017/03/21/well/family/why-kids-shouldnt-sit-still-in-class.html>