

ABSTRACT

SPECIAL FUND PROPOSAL

Section I. BASIC INFORMATION

Proposed Project Title: School Improvement Grant

Grant Source and Agency: Federal Grant through Connecticut State
Department of Education – SIG 1003g

Total Amount Requested: \$323,574.00 **Due Date of Application:**
10/1/22

System Contact: Mark Sweeting, Principal – Hillhouse High School
Viviana Conner, Assistant Superintendent of Instructional
Leadership / School Improvement

Telephone #:
475-220-7500

Description of Project: This grant is a school improvement grant designed
to improve overall academic achievement for all
students and provide professional development.

GRANT PERIOD:

From: 7/1/22

To: 6/30/2023

New

Continuation

Previous Bd. of Ed. Approval:

Planning

Operational

Bd. of Ed. Information

Action

Information

Support

Competitive

Entitlement

Grant

PROPOSAL DEVELOPERS:
Mark Sweeting

TARGET: Schools/Unit: Hillhouse High School
No. of Students: 1200 **Grade Level(s):** 9-12
Eligibility Criteria: All students

CENTRAL OFFICE USE ONLY – MUST REMAIN ON PAGE 1

ABSTRACT TIMETABLE

Return to: _____
Received: _____
**Board of Education FINANCE
& OPERATIONS Meeting Date** 10/3/22
**Board of Education
Meeting Date:** 10/11/22
Due Date to Grantor: _____

REVIEW

Grants Manager Pat Demas

Finance Manager Sharon

Human Resource Manager _____

Proposed Project Title: School Improvement Grant Cohort 2

Total Amount Requested: \$323,574.00

Proposed Grant Receiving Agency: NHPS

SECTION II: FISCAL INFORMATION

PERSONNEL

# FT	#PT		COST
		Administrators	\$
		Teachers	\$
		Management	\$
		Paraprofessionals	\$
		Clerks	\$
	2	Others	\$60,400
	7	Stipend	\$56,000
		Longevity	
		SUBTOTAL	\$116,400

NON-PERSONNEL

	COST
Supplies & Materials	\$8,750
Student Transportation	\$24,000
Staff Travel	\$
Internal Evaluation	\$
External Evaluation	\$
Independent Contractors	\$87,933
Equipment	\$58,777
Other	\$
Indirect Costs, if allowed	\$
TOTAL NON- PERSONEL	\$179,460

FIXED COSTS:

Health Benefits	\$
Pension (Paras & Mgmt.)	\$
FICA/Medicare	\$26,778
Workmen's Compensation	\$936
SUBTOTAL	\$27,714
TOTAL PERSONNEL & FIXED COSTS	\$144,114

Notes:

- 1) Total Personnel and Non Personnel columns must equal grant total.
- 2) The Abstract budget must be aligned with the Grant Application budget/ED114.
- 3) All applications should budget for staff development (stipends) and evaluation wherever appropriate.

SECTION IIA: BUDGET EXPLANATION

The following categories must be explained:

All Personnel: explain positions; **Salary:** if the grant pays a percent of salary and fixed costs, please describe below, breaking down **percentages and amounts to be paid by grant and by NHPS**. **Other;** and **All Non- Personnel items.** If additional space is needed, continue to next page.

Teachers' stipends-Department leaders will receive stipends for running professional development, facilitating weekly PLC meetings, Curriculum Development and leading academic programs for their departments.

Focus Schools will support leadership teams on coaching, actionable feedback, building teacher capacity. The FS will work directly with teacher leaders to develop an alignment between data teams and instructional practices. By accurately identifying the instructional development needs of staff, students' can implement the appropriate individualized and whole class educational supports.

Tutors for afterschool focus on student academic areas of need, such as math, reading, or language arts.

Professional Services- A mural will be painted with S.M.A.R.T. Core Values and G.O.T. A visual representation and clear messaging to the students, staff and school visitors about what Hillhouse is all about is a necessary step in changing the school culture and climate. Using the hallway walls to promote this change in vision, supports the drive to create and develop the vision of a Hillhouse graduate as outlined by the renewed SIP vision, mission, and core values statement.

ACES-Professional development in the implementation of a school-wide writing initiative

Supplies- 2000 shirts will be purchased, two shirts for each student. These shirts are connected to the building a new focused positive school climate and culture. Connecting students to the school via school based pride and history. "Students with school spirit do more than show support for their school. They perform better academically, are more socially and civically engaged, and are happier in general than their less-spirited peers. What's more, the majority of principals (92%) feel that high school spirit is tied to high student achievement." <http://cas.casciac.org/?p=4692>

Equipment- Each hallway will feature a touch panel display that will provide students and staff with daily information about the school; day schedule, block times, general information, explanation of S.M.A.R.T. Core Values and G.O.T. This active motion and audio/visual representation and clear messaging to the students, staff and school visitors about what Hillhouse is all about is another way to support changing the school culture and climate. These informational checkpoints will support clear messaging that is updated daily/weekly/monthly and actively support a positive school climate and change to the school environment.

Field Trips- Several bus trips to New York and Boston to offer cultural experience, exposure, and diverse learning experiences. Places of interest include; The Metropolitan Museum Of Art, Museum of Modern Art, American Museum of Natural History, Times Square, The Empire State Building, 911 Memorial and Freedom Tower, the NY Stock Exchange, ... In Boston the areas of learning and exploration include the Freedom Trail, Boston Tea Party Ships & Museum, Boston Common, USS Constitution Museum, Bunker Hill Monument, Faneuil Hall, Old South Meeting House, Old North Church, ...bus expenses are \$850 plus event/experience tickets and meals, approximately \$60 per student @ 52 students per bus.

Proposed Project Title: School Improvement Grant Cohort 2

Total Amount Requested: \$323,574.00

Proposed Grant Receiving Agency: NHPS

SECTION III: SYSTEM OBLIGATIONS

Project support from other programs: None Yes **Explain: Title 1**

Linkage with other programs: None Yes **Explain: Title 1, Priority, Alliance**

Local Fiscal costs, (include renovation): None Yes **Explain:**

Future local personnel obligations: None Yes **Explain:**

PROJECT OR GRANT REQUIREMENTS

- Local Maintenance Replication Parent Involvement
 In-Service Training Advisory Committee Linkage w/other Programs
 Non-Public School Involved Dissemination

ADDITIONAL RESTRICTIONS OR CONCERNS

SUBMITTING ADMINISTRATOR: Mark Sweeting 10/1/2022
Signature **Date**

Proposed Project Title: School Improvement Grant – Cohort 2

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SECTION IV: PROPOSED PERSONNEL

List, **individually**, each position proposed by this grant application. **If no personnel**, please indicate N/A in the chart below

F/T	P/T	Classification	Position Description	Duration of Proposed Service	Proposed Employee	Current NHPS Employee Yes/No	If Yes Current Employee Number
	7	Teacher's stipends	Department leaders will receive stipends for running professional development, running PLC's, Curriculum Development and leading academic programs for their departments	Duration of the grant	TBD	TBD	
	2	Deans	Hallway and classroom behavior support to redirect and support students and staff during the school day.	Duration of the grant	TBD	NO	

V. PROPOSED CONTRACTS

List **individually**, each contract that will be prepared by this proposed project. **If contractors will not be utilized**, please indicate **N/A** in the chart below.

Proposed Independent Contractor	Brief Description of Service	Proposed Pay Rate	Proposed Total
Focused Schools	Supporting School Leadership	\$ 44,400 for the year of service	
Area Cooperative Educational Services	Professional Development for teachers in writing	\$ 24,200 for the year of service	
Outsourced Tutoring	Afterschool tutors in identified academic areas of need; math, reading, and/or language arts.	Not to exceed \$16,333	

VI. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Please Answer All Questions -- Use Additional Pages if Necessary

1. Please state specific goals for this grant or the grant period.

The percentage of students scoring Level 3 or above in ELA on the SAT will increase from 19.4% to 35% and in Math from 4.9% to 20% on SAT by June 1, 2024
 Students in Grade 9 will have a 20% increase (45% to 65%) in proficiency on Comprehension as measured by the Scholastic Reading Inventory (SRI) Spring 2024 assessment
 100% of teams will score a minimum of a 3 utilizing the Connecticut State Department of Education data team rubric to assess their effectiveness by June 2024
 Hillhouse students taking College and Career Readiness courses will increase from 45% to 65% as measured by the CSDE Next Generation Accountability Report (indicator 5) by June 2025
 Hillhouse students obtaining employment certifications will increase from 45% to 65% and their high school diploma from 70.6% (2021-22 SY) to 82% (2024-2025 SY)

2. If this is a continuation grant, please detail past year goal performance and accomplishments. Use additional space if needed:

This grant addresses:

- Talent Priorities –Focused School for School Leadership
- Academic Priorities – SRBI and Data Team Process through ACES
- Climate Priorities – Manufacturing to support career pathway program
- Operations Priorities –Focused Schools and ACES will support operations to support student achievement

3. How does this grant address School Reform goals?

This grant is significant and important for improving staff understanding and development of appropriate support and professional development for school leadership to support the SRBI and Data Team Process in all disciplines. With staff focused on the correct data points and subsequently designed teacher led professional development, data identified student academic needs will provide a pathway for remediation, acceleration, and success for all. By providing students with the necessary academic supports tailored to their individual learning needs, the development of clear career pathways and/or future academic pursuits. It will also move students to blended learning and provide interventions in reading and math for those that need additional support.

4. Please explain why this proposal is significant and important in relation to improving student and/or staff performance, as well as any additional pertinent information that is specific and relevant: (Include resume of person(s) providing service for contracts \$10,000 and over)

This grant is significant and important for improving student and staff performance because it provides staff with clear and appropriate support for professional development based on developing school leadership capacity, support for SRBI, and development of the Data Team Process in all disciplines, at all grade levels. Through the improvement of staff leadership and capacity, there is renewed focus on student supports for career pathways. Additionally, for all students, a refocus on providing students with blended learning experiences, while providing targeted academic intervention in reading and math.

REQUIRED:

A COPY OF THE GRANT APPLICATION MUST BE ATTACHED TO THE ABSTRACT.