

ABSTRACT

SPECIAL FUND PROPOSAL

Section I. BASIC INFORMATION

Proposed Project Title: School Improvement Grant (SIG 1003)

Grant Source and Agency: CT State Department of Education (CSDE)

Total Amount Requested: \$197,147

Due Date of Application:
October 2020

System Contact: Yolanda Jones-Generette

Telephone #: (475) 220-4900

Description of Project: Provide a brief description below. Use Section VI to outline specific objectives and strategies relating to goals described in the application.

- 1) To provide evidence-based professional training that builds teacher and leader capacity for content to support student achievement.
- 2) To purchase contractual services from consultants who are recognized professional development specialists providing training in math and social-emotional learning that are embedded and meet the guidelines of ESSA evidence-based strategies of strong or moderate research.
- 3) To purchase materials/programs grounded in research meeting ESSA guidelines.



TARGET: Schools/Unit: West Rock Authors Academy (Turnaround)

No. of Students: 178 **Grade Level(s):** PreK-4

Eligibility Criteria: Evidence-based research strategies/interventions

GRANT PERIOD:	
From: (mm/dd/year): 10/01/2020	
To: (mm/dd/year): 06/30/2021	
<input type="checkbox"/> New <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Continuation	
Previous Bd. of Ed. Approval:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Planning <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Operational	
Bd. of Ed. Information	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action <input type="checkbox"/> Information <input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Competitive <input type="checkbox"/> Entitlement <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grant	

PROPOSAL DEVELOPERS:
Yolanda Jones-Generette
William Scott

CENTRAL OFFICE USE ONLY – MUST REMAIN ON PAGE 1	
ABSTRACT TIMETABLE	REVIEW
<p>Return to: _____</p> <p>Received: _____</p> <p>Board of Education FINANCE & OPERATIONS Meeting Date <u>10/19/20</u></p> <p>Board of Education Meeting Date: <u>10/26/20</u></p> <p>Due Date to Grantor: _____</p>	<p>Grants Manager <u></u></p> <p>Finance Manager <u></u></p> <p>Human Resource Manager _____</p>

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SECTION II: FISCAL INFORMATION

PERSONNEL

# FT	#PT		COST
		Administrators	\$
		Teachers	\$
		Management	\$
		Paraprofessionals	\$
		Clerks	\$
		Others	\$
		Stipend	\$
		Longevity	
	2	Tutors	\$24,960.00
		SUBTOTAL	\$24,960.00

NON PERSONNEL

	COST
Supplies & Materials	\$65,000.00
Student Transportation	\$
Staff Travel	\$
Internal Evaluation	\$
External Evaluation	\$
Independent Contractors	\$ 40,000.00
Equipment	\$65,108.00
Other	\$
Indirect Costs, if allowed	\$
TOTAL NON- PERSONNEL	\$170,108.00

FIXED COSTS:

Health Benefits	\$
Pension (Paras & Mgmt.)	\$
FICA/Medicare	\$1,909.27
Workmen's Compensation	\$169.73
SUBTOTAL	\$2,079.00
TOTAL PERSONNEL & FIXED COSTS	\$27,039.00

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.

This is a grant that covers contractual services, materials and supplies and equipment for schools that meet the state criteria for turnaround or focus school categories based on next generation accountability indicators.

- Tutor responsibilities include, but are not limited to providing small group remedial support and instruction in mathematics and reading to students requiring more intensive supports.
- Contractor responsibilities include providing professional development on the utilization of technology resources to create meaningful small group experiences to meet the diverse needs of special populations.
- Non-personnel items include attendance incentives aimed at decreasing chronic absenteeism, technology to bridge the digital divide, as well as manipulatives and digital resources to increase math and reading achievement.

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SECTION III: SYSTEM OBLIGATIONS

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

Linkage with other programs: None Yes **Explain: Support of interventions from Title I**

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

N/A

SUBMITTING ADMINISTRATOR:

 October 17, 2020
Signature Date

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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
	2	Tutors	Instructional tutor providing remedial support in mathematics and reading	Math and reading tutoring and support will be facilitated November 2020-June 2020.	TBD	TBD	TBD

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
Apple	Provide virtual professional development and job-embedded coaching on the utilization of technology resources.	TBD	\$40,000

VI. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:
Please Answer All Questions -- Use Additional Pages if Necessary

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

This is the final year of the School Improvement Grant, provided to school districts to support teaching and learning in schools identified as Turnaround or Focus.

Goals include:

- Closing the achievement gap: learning is promoted for all students, but is particularly targeted for schools that are categorized as turnaround or focus schools.

At West Rock, we will focus on three identified growth areas as goals: differentiation and checks for understanding, supports for special populations and student attendance.

Student achievement goals are as follow:

- By June 2021, ELA achievement as measured by the School Performance Index (SPI) ESSA milestone will be 62%; 2018-2019 actual SPI was 56.9%
- By June 2021, Math achievement as measured by the School Performance Index (SPI) ESSA Milestone will be 58%; 2018-2019 actual SPI was 51.5%
- By June 2020, the percentage of students identified as chronically absent will decrease by 4.4 percentage points from 19.4% in June 2019 to 15% in June 2020.

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

This is the final year of a four-year grant, and our goals are as listed above.

Past year accomplishments are as follow:

- Increase in the percentage of students achieving level 3 or 4 in Math on Smarter Balanced Assessments from 31.9% in June 2017 to 37.9 in June 2018.
- A 6.6 percentage point reduction in chronic absenteeism from 26% in June 2018 to 19.4% in June 2019.

The above progress is a testament to the materials, supplies and contractual supports received in the first three years of SIG funding. Our goal is capitalize on these gains and continue the momentum we currently have in the final year of this grant.

2. How does this grant address School Reform goals?

This grant addresses School Reform goals by providing students with research-based strategies and interventions to help them be able to access learning via a focus on differentiation and checks for understanding. Trained staff will be provided with research-based instructional strategies and intervention supports based on ESSA guidelines. In this shifting landscape of education, we will emphasize providing these supports both virtually and in-person. In addition, this grant addresses attendance issues and the need to provide students emotional supports through community partnerships and wraparound services. The ultimate intent of all professional development, programs and materials/supplies is to raise student achievement by building staff capacity.

3. **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 proposal is significant to both building staff capacity and raising student achievement. Teachers and leaders will be trained by consultants on the different digital tools and forums available to bridge the digital divide and address the diverse learning needs of special populations. We have already seen a 6% increase in the percentage of students achieving level 3 or 4 in Math on Smarter Balanced Assessments, and we believe the development and materials listed above will help us target students that have historically struggled in math and reading and raise this percentage further. All development, programs, and materials listed above meet ESSA guidelines and the definition of evidence-based intervention. The use of new materials, programs and training is intended to enhance pace of learning and further already significant gains in identified growth areas.

REQUIRED:

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