

# ABSTRACT

## SPECIAL FUND PROPOSAL

### Section I. BASIC INFORMATION

**Proposed Project Title:** Hillhouse School Improvement Grant Funding for 2023-24 (SIG) Cohort 2

**Grant Source and Agency:** School Improvement Grant

**Total Amount Requested:** \$170,798.00      **Due Date of Application:** 10/01/2023

**System Contact:** Kristina DeNegre & Peggy Moore (Interim Principal)

**Tel #** (475) 321-0554

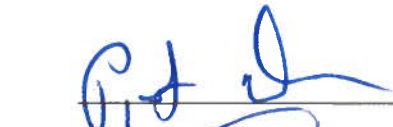

**Description of Project:** Provide a brief description below. Use Section VI to outline specific objectives and strategies relating to goals described in the application.

Hillhouse's SIG funding will be used to improve instruction focusing on planning, engagement, differentiation, implementation of curriculum and instruction with state standards, restorative practices, and student attendance. By using grant funds to provide support from LEARN Partnership in order to provide teacher professional learning, an engaging learning experiences, with expected adult and student outcomes, we plan to see improved academic achievement, more students meeting both SAT benchmarks, improved attendance, and increase in graduation rate.

**TARGET: Schools/Unit:** Hillhouse High School  
**No. of Students:** 1120      **Grade Level(s):** 9-12  
**Eligibility Criteria:** School Improvement Grant

<b>GRANT PERIOD:</b>	
<b>From:</b> (10/30/2023)	
<b>To:</b> (06/30/2024)	
<input type="checkbox"/> New <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Continuation	
<b>Previous Bd. of Ed. Approval:</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Planning <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Operational	
<b>Bd. of Ed. Information</b>	
<input 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:**  
*Kristina DeNegre*

CENTRAL OFFICE USE ONLY – MUST REMAIN ON PAGE 1	
ABSTRACT TIMETABLE	REVIEW
<b>Return to:</b> _____	<b>Grants Manager</b>  <b>Finance Manager</b>  <b>Human Resource Manager</b> _____
<b>Received:</b> _____	
<b>Board of Education FINANCE &amp; OPERATIONS Meeting Date</b> <u>12/4/23</u>	
<b>Board of Education Meeting Date:</b> <u>12/11/23</u>	
<b>Due Date to Grantor:</b> _____	

Proposed Project Title: School Improvement Grant

Total Amount Requested: \$170,798

Proposed Grant Receiving Agency: Hillhouse High School

## SECTION II: FISCAL INFORMATION

### PERSONNEL

# FT	#PT		COST
		Administrators	\$
		Teachers	\$
		Management	\$
		Paraprofessionals	\$
		Clerks	\$
	2	Others (Deans)	\$17,550.00
		Stipend	\$
		Longevity	
		<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>\$17,550.00</b>

### NON PERSONNEL

	COST
Supplies & Materials	\$4,163.00
Student Transportation	\$
Staff Travel	\$
Internal Evaluation	\$
External Evaluation	\$
Independent Contractors	\$122,000.00
Equipment	\$
Other	\$11,000.00
Indirect Costs, if allowed	\$
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$137,163</b>
<b>NON- PERSONNEL</b>	

### FIXED COSTS:

Health Benefits	\$
Pension (Paras & Mgmt.)	\$
FICA/Medicare	\$15,962.00
Workmen's Compensation	\$123.00
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>TOTAL PERSONNEL &amp; FIXED COSTS</b>	<b>\$16,085.00</b>

### 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.

- **Two Part-time deans:** In an effort to reduce chronic absenteeism and the number of students skipping class Hillhouse will hire an additional 2 part-time deans to ensure that students are getting to class and decrease the number of students skipping class. Two Part-time deans will be paid solely through the SIG Grant and has a duration of one school year. The positions are only renewed year to year as needed.
- **NewsELA:** Online subscription allows for teachers in all subject areas to access leveled texts for students to utilize during instruction allowing to place text at their level in order to access grade level standards.
- **LEARN Consultants:** Teachers at Hillhouse will be trained on effective instructional and engagement strategies and utilizing block scheduling in order to provide students with rigorous tier 1 and differentiated instruction. According to the School Library Media Research and Research

This training will support our teachers in leveraging the 80-minute instructional block to support content instruction but also provide students with supports within the block to meet their needs. Hillhouse teachers will be trained in planning for Student Engagement Strategies and differentiation according to students' needs. Engaged students experience improved academic achievement and satisfaction, are more likely to persist through academic struggles, and earn higher standardized test scores. Engaging students in the learning process increases their attention and focus and moves them to more critical thinking. Instructors who adopt a student-centered approach to instruction increase opportunities for student engagement, which then helps everyone more successfully achieve the course's learning objectives. This training also includes training in Trauma Informed Instruction with elements of Restorative Practices embedded within. Teachers will engage in this work to better understand the students in front of them. Lastly, Leadership training will also be provided to Hillhouse administrators to continue the work after the contract ends and to support teachers as well as provide feedback to teachers regarding instruction. (Contract Attached).

- **Hillhouse Pride Initiatives:** Hillhouse Pride items will be purchased in order to recognize students who have made improvements in attendance and reducing chronic absenteeism and to continue to create a positive school climate. Recognizing these students and fostering a connection to the school all the while recognizing them for improving attendance will increase a sense of pride and school spirit. As a result, students will attend and perform better academically, be more connected to our school, and civically engaged



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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

<b>F/T</b>	<b>P/T</b>	<b>Classification</b>	<b>Position Description</b>	<b>Duration of Proposed Service</b>	<b>Proposed Employee</b>	<b>Current NHPS Employee Yes/No</b>	<b>If Yes Current Employee Number</b>
	2	Dean of Students	Support the school on student behavior and provide supports.	2023-2024 school year	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
<b>LEARN Consultants:</b>	Training on effective instructional and engagement strategies and utilizing block scheduling, trauma informed instruction, restorative practice, and leadership training.	\$122,000	\$122,000
<b>NewsELA</b>	Online subscription for all subject areas to access leveled texts for students	\$11,000	\$11,000

**VI. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

**Please Answer All Questions -- Use Additional Pages if Necessary**

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

School Improvement Grants (SIGs), make competitive subgrants to local educational agencies (LEAs) that demonstrate the greatest need for the funds and the strongest commitment to use the funds to provide adequate resources in order to substantially raise the achievement of students in their lowest-performing schools. Hillhouse will focus on increasing and building capacity of staff to not only instruct in the 80-minute block schedule, but to also develop an instructional framework for the block. The focus will be to use the instructional framework to plan for the students in front of them (differentiation) and utilizing a variety of engagement strategies within their lesson and implementation to increase student engagement.

- Increase Graduation rate from 60.8% (22-23) to 65% (23-24)
- Increase our SPI in Literacy 38.7 (22-23) to 59.2 (23-24)
- Increase our SPI in Math from (22-23) to 57.7 (23-24)

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

**3. How does this grant address School Reform goals?**

Since Hillhouse moved to the block schedule last school year, this grant will support the transition and allow for teachers to build their “toolbox” around planning and implementing engaging instruction. Planning and Engagement Strategies will help teachers maximize and

leverage 80-minute instructional blocks to support a diversity of learning styles. In addition, the grant will allow us to fund professional learning which will include support to the whole staff and department (by content) to focus on the instructional framework and expectations for planning and engagement. This will be ongoing throughout the year. Bi-weekly Leadership and Evaluation Coaching for Administrators to support admins in building instructional knowledge and holding staff to high levels of accountability using the evaluations process all the while coaching and supporting teachers in rigorous instruction This will ensure that the work continues throughout and beyond this school year. Lastly, there will be embedded work on Trauma Informed Instruction and Restorative Practices. The grant addresses School Reform Goals by allowing teachers to plan for and engage students, create experiences for improved academic achievement and satisfaction, support students to persist through academic struggles, and earn higher standardized test scores. Engaging students in the learning process increases their attention and focus and moves them to more critical thinking. Instructors who adopt a student-centered approach to instruction increase opportunities for student engagement, which then helps everyone more successfully achieve the course's learning objectives. In addition, students who feel more engaged in class and acknowledge that their needs are being met, are more likely to attend school.

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)**

All activities align with the New Haven Public Schools Strategic Operating Plan. Specifically, the SIG will support educators at HSC in ensuring high achievement for all learners (NHPS Strategic Plan Goal 2); development of the whole child (NHPS Strategic Plan Goal 3); and preparation for college, career, and life (NHPS Strategic Plan Goal 4).

## **REQUIRED:**

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