

ABSTRACT

SPECIAL FUND PROPOSAL

Section I. BASIC INFORMATION

Proposed Project Title: School Improvement Grant (SIG 1003)

Grant Source and Agency: CT State Dept. of Ed

Total Amount Requested: \$260,000 **Due Date of Application:**
10/18/2023

System Contact: David Diah – Principal of Wexler-Grant Community School

Telephone #: 475-220-5600

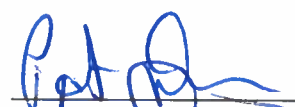
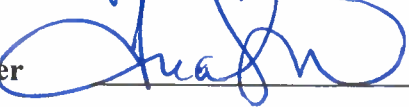
Description of Project: Provide a brief description below. Use Section VI

- 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 specialist providing training in literacy and math that are embedded and meet the guidelines of ESSA evidence-based strategies meeting the criteria of strong or moderate research.
- 3) To purchase materials/programs grounded in research that meet ESSA guidelines.
- 4) To provide parent workshops and learning events for parents and families of Wexler Students. These events will help to rebuild our PTO as well as bring parents into school in order to build their knowledge on how to support their child(ren) at home.

TARGET: Schools/Unit: Wexler Grant Community School
No. of Students: 220 **Grade Level(s):** K-8
Eligibility Criteria: Title I/Focus school, and Evidence-based research

GRANT PERIOD:	
From: (7/1/2023):	
To: (07/30/2024)	
<input type="checkbox"/> New	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Continuation	
Previous Bd. of Ed. Approval:	
<hr/> <hr/>	
<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:
David Diah

CENTRAL OFFICE USE ONLY – MUST REMAIN ON PAGE 1	
<p style="text-align: center;">ABSTRACT TIMETABLE</p> <p>Return to: _____</p> <p>Received: _____</p> <p>Board of Education FINANCE & OPERATIONS Meeting Date <u>11/6/23</u></p> <p>Board of Education Meeting Date: <u>11/13/23</u></p> <p>Due Date to Grantor: _____</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">REVIEW</p> <p>Grants Manager <u></u></p> <p>Finance Manager <u></u></p> <p>Human Resource Manager _____</p>

Proposed Project Title: SIG 1003

Total Amount Requested: \$260,000

Proposed Grant Receiving Agency: NHPS

SECTION II: FISCAL INFORMATION

PERSONNEL

# FT	#PT		COST
		Administrators	\$
	22	Teachers	\$32,500
		Paraprofessionals	\$
		Clerks	\$
		Stipends	\$
		Others Pre Planning and seasonal	\$
		Longevity	\$
		SUBTOTAL	\$32,500

NON PERSONNEL

	COST
Supplies & Materials	\$
Student Transportation	\$
Staff Travel	\$
Internal Evaluation	\$
External Evaluation	\$
Independent Contractors	\$124,300
Equipment	\$
Other	\$100,000
Indirect Costs, if allowed	\$
TOTAL NON- PERSONNEL	\$260,000

FIXED COSTS:

Health Benefits	\$
Pension (Paras & Mgmt.)	\$
FICA/Medicare	\$2,970
Workmen's Compensation	\$230
TOTAL PERSONNEL	\$3,200
TOTAL PERSONNEL & FIXED COSTS	\$35,700

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

Please describe **stipends, contracted services, equipment, other** items and **Salary**: if the grant pays a percent of salary and benefits, please describe below, explaining percentages and **amounts to be paid by grant and by NHPS**. If additional space is needed, continue to next page:

****This is a grant that covers contractual services, equipment and supplies/materials that meet the state and ESSA criteria of Title I and Focus, and evidence-based interventions.**

Personnel Services – Salaries

1. The Teacher Leader team (5 Teachers) will collaborate for 4 hours a week afterschool to plan for targeted professional development aligned to the new district initiatives and school initiatives in order to address school-wide trends in instruction. The professional learning will be tailored to the needs of the whole staff as well as specific grade level teams based on instructional trends identified in walkthroughs. 5 teachers x 4 hrs. x \$32 x 31.25 wks = \$20,000.

2. Staff Stipends for Spring Report Card Conference - Staff will participate in an additional 3.25 hour report card conference in April for parents. NHPS schedules two report conferences each year. Wexler Grant Staff wants to have a Spring conference to continue to communicate to parents the expectations for students at their current grade level and the one they are about to enter. It is imperative to continue to keep parents informed of their child(rens) academic strengths and challenges. This allows us to strengthen the home to school connection and relationships with parents and families. 22 teachers x \$113.636 = \$2,500.
3. MATH PLC's – Stipends - Teachers at grades 5-8 will participate in Math PLC's for four hours a week after school with the focus on developing their own knowledge of Math progressions and conceptual understanding of Math Standards to implement rigorous tier 1 instruction as well as address the gap needs of students. Teachers will work with Math Coaches and leverage our current Math curriculum to build their expertise in Math instruction. 3 teachers x 4 hrs. x \$32 x 26.041 wks = \$10,000.

Personnel Services – Benefits

1. Benefits total = \$3,200

Purchased Professional and Technical Services

1. Restorative Practices Coach/Classroom Management/SEL Prof. Learning - Training staff on implementation of restorative practices in order to reduce suspensions and student office referrals. Staff will embark on a year-long training on the implementation of Restorative practices with the focus on community building within our school and classrooms. Teachers will be trained on a restorative approach to discipline in order to address student behaviors to prevent conflict, and to react to misconduct by encouraging students to accept responsibility and rebuild relationships. Teachers will also engage in professional learning on effective classroom management strategies, inclusive of setting up classroom structures and routines, planning for appropriate responses to both appropriate and inappropriate behaviors, and students sharing responsibility for learning. Teachers will also be provided with Restorative Resources in order to fully implement the approach. Total = \$54,300
2. Two Boundless Literacy Instructors - Wexler Grant will use two Boundless Literacy interventionists to implement a targeted intervention for students who are in need of additional support in phonics and phonemic awareness. These instructors will meet with six to eight groups daily for 30-40 minutes in targeted intervention blocks in Grades K-5. These groups will receive intensive instruction in foundational skills using the Orton Gillingham approach based on assessment data. We will track the students' progress through assessments which will allow us to make instructional decisions to best support the needs of students. Total = \$70,000

Other Purchased Services

1. Parent Engagement Activities/Supplies - Wexler Grant will conduct Parent Workshops and Learning events for parents and families of Wexler Students. Food, Supplies for “Make and Takes”, additional resources for parents to support their child(ren) at home with Literacy and Math will be provided. These events will help to rebuild our PTO as well as bring parents into school in order to build their knowledge on how to support their child(ren) at home. Topics will include but are not limited to: Literacy, Math, SEL, Family Game Night, Movie Night, Science Night, etc. \$30,000.
2. Wexler Grant PAWS - Branding/Incentives - Wexler Grant will utilize funds to support students and develop a love of our school community. We will acknowledge students who have improved

attendance and who have perfect attendance throughout the school year. In addition, we will continue to work to create a positive school climate through branding and providing students with the opportunity to earn Wexler Grant "Swag Bags" to showcase their school pride. In addition, we will also purchase parent "swag" to improve parent investment into our school and showcase their pride in their child(ren) attending Wexler Grant (ie: bumper stickers, car magnets, T-shirts, refrigerator magnets, etc...) \$70,000

Proposed Project Title: SIG 1003

Total Amount Requested: \$260,000 (Funding Agency: CSDE)

Proposed Grant Receiving Agency: NHPS

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

**Professional development and programs must be grounded in evidence-based research and practices based on ESSA guidelines.
Schools must be Title I Turnaround or Focus.**

SUBMITTING ADMINISTRATOR: *DDiah* 10/12/2023
Signature **Date**

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
Restorative Practices Coach/Classroom Management/SEL Prof. Learning	Training staff on implementation of restorative practices in order to reduce suspensions and student office referrals. Teachers will also engage in professional learning on effective classroom management strategies, inclusive of setting up classroom structures and routines, planning for appropriate responses to both appropriate and inappropriate behaviors, and students sharing responsibility for learning.	\$54,300	\$54,300
Two Boundless Literacy Instructors	Wexler Grant will use two Boundless Literacy interventionists to implement a targeted intervention for students who are in need of additional support in phonics and phonemic awareness. These instructors will meet with six to eight groups daily for 30-40 minutes in targeted intervention blocks in Grades K-5.	\$70,000	\$70,000
Parent Engagement Activities/Supplies	Wexler Grant will conduct Parent Workshops and Learning events for parents and families. These events will help to rebuild our PTO as well as bring parents into school in order to build their knowledge on how to support their child(ren) at home.	\$30,000	\$30,000
Wexler Grant PAWS - Branding/Incentives	Wexler Grant will acknowledge students who have improved attendance and who have perfect attendance throughout the school year. In addition, we will continue to work to create a positive school climate through branding and providing students with the opportunity to earn Wexler Grant "Swag Bags" to showcase their school pride. In addition, we will also purchase parent "swag" to improve parent investment into our school and showcase their pride in their child(ren) attending Wexler Grant (ie: bumper stickers, car magnets, T-shirts, refrigerator magnets, etc...)	\$70,000	\$70,000

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

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

This is a two-year grant provided to school districts to support teaching and learning in schools identified as Turnaround or Focused. The grant is for planning, training, implementation and purchase of materials and programs to support intervention in math and literacy.

Overarching goal is - Closing the achievement gap: learning is promoted for all students, but is particularly targeted to schools that are categorized by the state as turnaround and focused schools.

- At Wexler Grant, we will focus on three identified growth areas: Instructional Practice, Academic Rigor and Student Attendance.
- Our student achievement goals are:
 1. SMART Goal: Goal #1: In alignment with ESSA goal targets, SPI for English Language Arts (ELA) from 56.4 in 2018-2019 to 64.8 (+8.4) in 2023-24. By June 2024, 70% of Wexler students will reach their Annual Average Growth Goals on the Reading Inventory.
 2. SMART Goal: Goal #2: In alignment with ESSA goal targets, SPI for Math from 45.3 in 2018-2019 to 58.8 (+13.5) in 2023-24.. By June 2024, 70% of Wexler students will reach their Typical Growth Goals on the iReady Diagnostic Assessment.
 3. SMART Goal: Goal #3: In alignment with ESSA goal targets, Wexler-Grant School will see a decrease in chronic absenteeism from 26.8% in 2018-2019 to 16.9% in 2023-24.

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

This is a continuation grant

2. How does this grant address School Reform goals?

This grant addresses the goal by providing students with research-based strategies and interventions to help them to be able to access learning via a focus on literacy and math skills aligned for STEM.

Interventionists will be hired to assist with Literacy intervention for students who are in need of additional support in phonics and phonemic awareness. Students will receive intensive instruction in foundational skills. Selection of resources, materials, development of lessons and overall Professional Development for K-8 teachers. The intent of all training and programs is to raise student achievement by providing staff with embedded coaching that is sustainable for future use. Staff will be trained on restorative practices approach to address student behaviors to prevent conflict, and to react to misconduct by encouraging students to accept responsibility and rebuild relationships. Teachers will also engage in professional learning on effective classroom

management strategies, inclusive of setting up classroom structures and routines, planning for appropriate responses to both appropriate and inappropriate behaviors, and students sharing responsibility for learning.

- 1. 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 improving student achievement and staff performance. Teachers and leaders are trained by consultants to implement identified literacy and math strategies to support students learning and acquisition of skills. Students are falling behind based on the high numbers identified substantially deficient via assessments. All activities align with the New Haven Public Schools Strategic Operating Plan. Specifically, the SIG will support educators at WGCS in ensuring high achievement for all learners (NHPS Strategic Plan Goal 2); development of the whole child (NHPS Strategic Plan Goal 3).

REQUIRED:

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