



The Swantz Fund for Building Better Teachers

Deadline – October 27, 2010

The information that you will include in the attached application form will provide the LPEF Grants Committee with the data needed to determine whether or not to fund your project. Applications must be from School District of La Crosse staff. Applications for other opportunities with the Foundation are available for download on our website at www.lpefonline.org.

Criteria

This fund was established with the goal of providing funding for staff development. Applications will be reviewed on a competitive basis by the Grants Committee of the La Crosse Public Education foundation. Priority will be given to applications that:

- Impact a large number of staff;
- Increase staff members' leadership capacity.

Guidelines

Grants must serve staff in the School District of La Crosse.

Project funds must be spent by May of 2012.

A final report will be required.

Payments for services of La Crosse School District employees are prohibited.

Instructions

- € Complete the following grant application.
- € Save as a Word document. Name the document the same name as your grant proposal.
- € Print page 1 of the application. Sign and obtain other necessary signatures. Submit a paper copy of page 1 to the La Crosse Public Education Foundation at Hogan via inter-school mail or by mail to P.O. Box 1811, La Crosse, WI 54602-1811.
- € Submit the entire application electronically to lpef@centurytel.net.
- € Both the paper copy and electronic copy must be received no later than 5:00 p.m. on October 27, 2010.

If you have questions, please contact Geva Thole at 608-397-0176



**La Crosse Public Education Foundation
Swantz Fund Grant Application**

Section 1: Personal Information:

Name: Tami Hillestad and Sandy Brauer

School: North Woods International Elementary School

Position/Title: Grade Three Teacher/Principal

School Phone: 789-7000

Section 2: Basic Project Information:

Project Title: Writing and Implementing Common Assessments

Total Request \$3,589.00

Signature of Applicant _____

Signature of Principal _____

Signature of IT Department Rep (if applicable) _____

The intention of the Foundation is to fund projects not covered by the regular school budget. Please document that regular avenues of funding have been exhausted.

***Principal Brauer confirmed that our building budget has no monies available for conferences or travel for the 2010-2011 school year. The District is unable to contribute funds at this time.

Section 3: Project Description:

- I. By June 1, 2011, we will send a team to a two day workshop in order to learn how to develop and implement common assessments used at the elementary level. The team will spend PLC time sharing what it has learned at the workshop so that all teams can begin the development of common assessments. We will then spend PLC time during the 2011-2012 school year writing and implementing common assessments and analyzing the results of the data collected via the common assessments. We will continue to develop a plan for meeting the needs of all learners in a systematic way.

II.

Objectives of Project	List the corresponding district/school/curriculum goals (if applicable)	State how you will evaluate whether objectives are met.
Team receives training in the development and implementation of common assessments at a Solution Tree Workshop in Minneapolis in May, 2011.	from the La Crosse Board of Education Strategic Plan “...develop and retain high performing staff.”	Team provides certificate of completion. Certificates will be kept in a binder.
Team uses PLC time to share what it has learned so that all teams can write common assessments for each grade level.	from the La Crosse Board of Education Strategic Plan “Promote futuristic learning trends and techniques.”	1. Share a PowerPoint of what was learned at the conference with staff members. Copy of PowerPoint to be kept in binder. 2. Develop a plan for which assessments will be written. Plan will be kept in binder.
PLC teams meet weekly to develop common assessments to be implemented in the classroom. The results of these assessments will be used specifically for planning instruction.	from the La Crosse Board of Education Strategic Plan “Address and meet the needs of all students.”	1. All copies of common assessments will be placed into a binder. 2. The data gained from implementing the common assessments will be used at weekly Team Planning meetings to group students for instruction, plan activities to meet all learners’ needs and celebrate our successes. Notes from team meetings will be collected and maintained.

III.

Activities to Accomplish Objectives	Who Will Be Responsible for Implementation	Resources Needed (not financial)	Timeframe to Accomplish
Select a team to send to the assessment workshop.	Principal Sandy Brauer	None	Three members will be chosen by February 11, 2011.
Share what was learned at the workshop with all staff members.	The team who attended the workshop will present at a staff meeting or PLC team meeting.	None	The team will present what has been learned to the staff by May 31, 2011.

Develop and implement a minimum of five common assessments per grade level.	All teachers, including specialists, will participate in developing common assessments.	None	The North Woods staff will develop and implement the common assessments by May 15, 2012.
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IV. What is the lifespan of this project?

We see the lifespan of this project as very long term. Assessment is not only crucial in education, but it is also ever evolving. Since one of the District initiatives is to begin working on common assessments, and there are many content areas to be covered, this may be a long process.

V. Approximately how many staff will be affected by this project? Explain your number.

There are approximately 19 classroom teachers, 5 teachers of students with Special Needs, and 5 support teachers at North Woods International School who will benefit from this training and work. Since we see all students as *our* students, it is important for all to have a shared understanding of what we want children to know and do and how we will know if they are successful.

VI. How could the project be shared with other teachers and schools to benefit more staff?

Many teachers in our building are involved on District committees, so it would definitely benefit the District to have people trained in writing common assessments. We could share what we have learned formally at district inservices or at grade level meetings. Much information could also be shared informally with colleagues across the district.

Section 4: Budget Information:

Item	Supplier	Budgeted Amount
Assessment Workshop Attendance	Solution Tree	\$1827.00 (Three people)
Hotel Accommodations	Hilton Hotel, Minneapolis, MN	\$680 (Two nights/two rooms)
Mileage/Meals	Restaurants-TBA; one car	\$102/meals; \$140/mileage
Substitute teacher costs	La Crosse School District Substitutes	\$140/day 6 days total (3 participants) \$840- Total

Total request: \$3,589.00

Other sources of funding for this project (if applicable): None

Total budget to accomplish project: \$3,589.00