



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 : Jeanne Halderson
School: Longfellow Middle School
Position/Title: Middle School Social Studies Representative and Seventh Grade Social Studies Teacher
School Phone: 789-7670

Section 2: Basic Project Information:

Project Title: **Social Studies: Networking In the 21st Century**

Total Request \$ 3,416.00

Signature of Applicant _____

Social Studies Supervisor _____

Signature of Principal _____

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.

The social studies budget has been cut, and this type of training is not possible. We have tried to find times outside of school to meet as a large group, but we have been unsuccessful coordinating a mutual time. There isn't enough sub money to meet during the school day. Our social studies committee is excited and committed to furthering our 21st century learning and teaching and to working together as a group to build our personal learning networks. It was a mutual decision amongst us as social studies leaders that this grant be written.

Section 3: Project Description:

By April of 2012, 7th and 8th grade social studies teachers in our district will infuse 21st technology skills as they apply to critical thinking, problem solving, and communication in the middle school social studies curriculum. This will be accomplished by giving time to the social studies reps at grade 7 and 8 to meet 5 times during the year to develop our professional skills via training, reading books, becoming institutional members of a professional organization, and to allow time to learn, process, share and create relevant new materials to teach the curriculum. As social studies reps, we will build upon each other's strengths by creating our own personal learning networks (PLN). The reps at each grade level will share what they learn with the other 1-2 teachers at their school and grade level.

Essentially all 7th and 8th grade teachers in our district will be trained from this grant, and every child in our school district will be impacted for 2 of the 13 years they are in school. The result is that the teaching of social studies will reflect 21st century skills and the recommendations of the National Social Studies Association, The Partnership for 21st Century Skills, the Literacy in History/Social Studies National

Standards, and the School District of La Crosse Middle School Social Studies Curriculum by assuring that our teachers have the knowledge and skills necessary to integrate critical thinking, problem solving, and communication using technology into the middle school social studies curriculum.

Note: Each middle school has a social studies representative for each grade level. In the past, we have met to write curriculum, analyze state test scores, and make goals for the future. The reps. responsibility is to share with the other social studies teachers at their grade level/school.

II.

For the purpose of this grant, the three columns made the text confusing. I have included all three components but in a linear format.

Objectives of Project

We teach in a time of rapid technological change and a dramatically different information landscape than what we were trained as undergraduates or even graduate students. In fact, the best description of the most effective 21st Century social studies as been coined Master Learner, because as professionals we are constantly trying to stay up to date with the newest technologies.

We are typically given little or no training on new technological innovations we are expected to teach. We need time to learn and explore the new technologies, process how we can incorporate them into our lessons using critical thinking, problem solving, and communication, and to share our knowledge with other teachers in the district to make us all more successful.

During a one year, period, each 7th and 8th grade social studies teacher will create a Personal Learning Networks (PLN). A PLN is a group of people who can guide your learning, point you to learning opportunities, answer your questions, and give you the benefit of their own knowledge and experience.

7th and 8th grade representatives will work together as leaders to determine what technology best meets our curriculum. Each of us will become “experts” in one or more forms of technology, and we will work together to learn as many new technologies as possible.

7th and 8th grade social studies representatives will improve their own technology skills by reading books, becoming a member of the National Social Studies Association, by attending one group training at CESA, and working as a group to further our knowledge.

What we learn will be shared in the collaborative environment of a wiki. A wiki is an easily editable website that allows all members to contribute content. Wikipedia is the best example of a group of people sharing their combined knowledge.

List the corresponding district/school/curriculum goals (if applicable)

According to the *Principles for Learning*, a joint statement developed by National Council for Social Studies in cooperation with six other curriculum organizations best practices in social studies including integration of technology using the “7 Principles” which are heavily grounded in technology integration.

The following is a list of skills that 21st Century Skills students are expected be competent in by 8th grade level. This list was developed by the Partnership of 21st Century Skills which includes the U.S. Dept. of Education among other organizations.

Middle School Outcomes

- Search engines & strategies electronic reference material (online libraries, databases, encyclopedias, atlases, almanacs, e-texts)
- Primary Sources (text, graphic, audio, multimedia, & material culture)
- Print sources (newspapers, journals, books, magazines, maps)

- Graphics software (drawing, painting, photo & video editing)
- Publishing & multimedia creation (clip art, video, sound, animations, Web authoring, word processing & layout programs)
- Data collection, manipulation, & storage tools (spreadsheets, graphing, databases, digital cameras, surveys)
- Concept mapping/graphic organizers (inspiration, Timeliner)
- Multimedia sources such as video, sound animations, clip art
- Digital production tools such as photography and video
- Presentation and/or communication tools, blogs, wikis, email, asynchronous conferencing
- CAI & simulation software - Videoconferencing and interactive TV
- GIS & gGPS tools

The Common Core for Social Studies will not be released until 2013, but our district has already adopted the Literacy in History/Social Studies Core Standards which include technology integration into our curriculum.

* Note: Our teacher computers are complete with all the software needed to implement this project. In fact, we have at least 5 new applications on our computers that we have been given no training for.

State how you will evaluate whether objectives are met.

- A middle school social studies wiki will be created and developed to its full potential with participation by 100% of the social studies representatives.
- A survey of technology use in regards to critical thinking, problem solving, and communication will be given prior to starting this project and upon completion of the year of learning.
- In 2013 when social studies teachers work with the new Common Core For Social Studies, our learning will be reflected in our School District of La Crosse implementation guides.

III.

Activities to Accomplish Objectives	Who Will Be Responsible for Implementation	Resources Needed (not financial)	Timeframe to Accomplish
<p style="text-align: center;">Face To Face: Meeting One</p> <p>Intro To - Personal Learning Networks – Learning to Use Wiki</p> <p>7:00- 8:30 - Each social studies representative will be trained to use the district sponsored wiki. A wiki is a collaborative online website. It is where we will archive and share our learning.</p> <p>8:30-9:30 – We will determine how we want to structure our wiki. In other words, what buttons will be on our website, and how we will divide the work. In doing so, we will</p>	<p>Jeanne Halderson – I am excited to share my knowledge with other teachers.</p> <p>Jeanne Halderson and Pamela Popp will collaboratively send out emails communication about the first meeting and reserve a room at Hogan.</p>	<p>-Teacher computers – we have these.</p> <p>-A room at Hogan</p>	<p>Quarter Four 2010-2011 school year</p>

<p>make decisions on what learning we want to occur during the year and which teachers will be “experts” on what topics. 9:45-10:45 – Passwords and usernames for the National Social Studies Association website will be distributed. Teachers will have time to explore and learn the awesome opportunities this site holds for them. 10:45-11:15 – Based on our goal setting done earlier in the morning, we will review the literature on social studies instruction and technology use, and we will either start the conversation (to be finished later via the wiki) or complete our discussion about the first 6 books we are going to order to move us forward. There are 6 reps, so each person will select a book to order.</p> <p>In the three months after the meeting, all reps. will share their learning from the books, the National Social Studies Association website and journals by adding online links, comments, lesson plans, etc. Once the wiki has enough solid content, it will be shared with all the other 7th and 8th grade teachers in the district.</p>	<p>Prior to the first meeting, J.H. will get the order in for the Social Studies journal so that we can use the online features at this meeting.</p> <p>J.H. and P.P will put the book order together and purchase the books.</p>		
<p>CESA Training – Using Primary Sources in a Web 2.0 Environment</p> <p>Beth Ratway from Learning Points, formerly a DPI-Social Studies Consultant, will provide this training.</p> <p>* Three of the social studies reps. went to a presentation she did at the beginning of this year, and she was phenomenal as she presented new information and facilitated us all working at our own pace.</p>	<p>Jeanne Halderson will work with Peggy Vogal, Director of Instructional Improvement, at CESA to coordinate this training. Beth Ratway will be the presenter.</p>		<p>Quarter 4 of 2010-2011 or Quarter 1 of 2011-2012</p>
<p>Face To Face: Meeting Two</p> <p>The meeting will begin with a sharing of resources – trading books, sharing must read articles from the NSSA hard copy journals or web links.</p> <p>Teachers from each of the schools will share</p>	<p>J.H. And P.P. Will work together to develop a schedule for the day. We will find out who our “teacher experts” will be this meeting and what we need to</p>		<p>Quarter 1 - 2011-1012</p>

<p>what they have become “experts on.”</p> <p>We will discuss how we could implement the new technologies into our teaching.</p> <p>There will be time to discuss resources and/or provide training.</p> <p>Time will be given to meet as cohorts in grade level groups. Teachers will leave the meeting with concrete plans for how they will implement the new technologies into specific lessons.</p> <p>The last 30 minutes of the meeting will be used to determine the next 3 books to purchase and previously purchased books will be redistributed amongst ourselves and to develop an action plan for who will become “experts” in what for the next meeting will be developed.</p> <p>Everything from the meeting and work done after the meeting will be shared on the wiki. It will be an agreement that all information shared is on the group wiki.</p> <p>After the meeting, each teacher will go back to his or her school and share what was gained with the other teachers at their school/grade level (typically 1-2 others) during mutual prep or team times.</p> <p>(Times are just an approximate.)</p>	<p>supplement with.</p> <p>** See note at the bottom about teacher experts.</p> <p>J.H. And P.P. will order the 3 new books.</p>		
<p>Face To Face: Meeting Three</p> <p>This meeting will be structured exactly like Face To Face meeting two. The last three books will be ordered.</p>	<p>Same as Face To Face Two</p>		<p>Quarter 2 2011-2012</p>
<p>Face To Face: Meeting Four</p> <p>This will be the last of our four face to face meetings. We will follow the same structure as meeting two and three, but this time we will leave enough time for reflection and</p>	<p>Same as Face To Face Two and Three</p>		<p>Quarter 3 2011-2012</p>

<p>decisions about how we will continue to move forward as a group after this grant has concluded.</p> <p>All 12 books purchased will be put into a Social Studies library housed at Longfellow Middle School. Check out to any middle school social studies teacher will be possible.</p>	<p>Additionally, J.H. Will organize, publicize, and manage the book check out system</p>		
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** Note: This grant has been structured in such a way that the social studies representatives will feel ownership and can steer themselves in the direction that best meets their needs. In an ideal situation, we would have all kinds of “experts.” If at any time technology training is needed past what the group can provide, I will provide training. As you know, you are never looked at as a true expert within 50 miles of where you live, so I am not an expert in La Crosse. HOWEVER, I feel comfortable providing training on any of these topics. I have taken extensive coursework in educational technology and have earned the distinction of the title Apple Distinguished Educator. I go every summer for an intensive one week technology camp, and I have my own personal learning network that extends beyond the school district staff. Some of the largest “names” in technology integration are my personal friends. I have presented on the topic of technology at the local, state, and national level. My work has been highlighted in the New York Times, the National Middle School Association Journal, T.H.E. Journal, numerous books and publications by the International Society of Technology Instruction, and many other national print and Internet publications. I try not to make any of this obvious within the district so as to “turn people off” to my services. I am pretty low key about all this, but my training always gets positive reviews.

IV. What is the lifespan of this project?

We would like to meet 5 times face to face during a year's time and communicate electronically via a group created wiki. Wikipedia has changed the face of the encyclopedia, and we would like to do this for social studies in our district. We feel that the effects of this grant will last long after the grant term.

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

Every 7th and 8th grade social studies representative in our district will be trained directly, and we would share the new information with the other teachers at our grade level and building (usually 1 sometimes 2 others). The end result is that every 7th and 8th grade social studies teacher in our district would develop a PLN and benefit from this grant. **The learning that occurs during this grant cycle would impact every child in the district for two – three years of their school career.**

Every 6th grade teacher in the district would have access to the institutional subscription to the National Social Studies Association website. At the end of the year, the 6th, 7th, and 8th grade teachers would all be able to check out the books from the new learning library that has been created.

We have approximately 24 social studies teachers at the middle school level.

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

The 7th and 8th grade teachers could share everything from this grant with the 6th grade teachers. This is a realistic plan as 6th grade has grade level reps, and we do have occasional all group meetings during staff development time. Everything we have done can be accessed using the wiki.

Section 4: Budget Information:

Item	Supplier	Budgeted Amount
24 half day subs (4 per teacher) For PLN meetings		$\$72 \times 24 = \1728
12 professional books (selected at first meeting)	Barnes and Noble	$\$25.00 \times 1 = \300.00
3 one year Institutional Subscriptions to National Social Studies Association (one for each middle school)	National Social Studies Association	$\$152 \times 3 = \456.00
Using Primary Resources and other Web 2.0 technologies to teach social studies	Beth Rathway/CESA	$\$500.00$
6 half day subs (1 per teacher to go to CESA training)		$\$72.00 \times 6 = 432.00$

Total request: \$ 3,416.00

Other sources of funding for this project (if applicable):

- I will work with Peggy Vogel at CESA to bring Beth to La Crosse. I have discussed it with her, and we both feel she is the type of presenter we need get more often. If we allow other districts to come to this training, CESA can pay a portion of the costs. Additionally, we can budget for the three 6th grade social studies reps. to go to this training. These budgets are due in April 2011 to Sandy Brauer.

Total budget to accomplish project: \$ 3,416.00