

**La Crosse Public Education Foundation
Classroom Innovation Grant Application**

Section 1: Personal Information:

Name : **Gail L. Traut**

School: **Logan Middle School**

Position/Title: **Teacher of Students with Learning Disabilities**

School Phone: **608-789-7750**

Section 2: Basic Project Information:

Project Title: **SEEING IS BELIEVING**

Total Request \$800.00

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. (i.e. requests to Principal and curriculum supervisors)

Section 3: Project Description:

- I. By April 15, 2011, students with learning disabilities, cognitive disabilities and students with hearing impairments at Logan Middle School will utilize a document camera while learning resulting in a positive academic learning experience in all subject areas taught in multiple classrooms.

	district/school/curriculum goals (if applicable)	whether objectives are met.
Present printed material to whole group for decoding and comprehension skill practice	E-2 Develop higher order critical thinking skills E-6 Demonstrate effective skills in team as well as individual endeavors E-7 Demonstrate effective and comprehensive communication skills	Students will improve reading decoding and comprehension skills which are essential in all aspects of their lives. Reading participation and skills will be observed and assessed using documentation and running records.
Demonstrate hands-on activities and lessons to whole group	E-2 Develop higher order critical thinking skills E-6 Demonstrate effective skills in team as well as individual endeavors E-7 Demonstrate effective and comprehensive communication skills	Students will observe while listening in order to better comprehend information and demonstrate strategies and skills on their own in all academic areas being taught. This objective will be assessed by observation and documentation of student understanding.
Provide whole group directions using visual cues for visual learners Reduce the cost of printing of materials for whole group	E-2 Develop higher order critical thinking skills E-6 Demonstrate effective skills in team as well as individual endeavors E-7 Demonstrate effective and comprehensive communication skills	Students will observe strategies which are best taught in demonstrations on how to implement skills such as highlighting text, skimming and scanning pages of books, reading maps/graphs, etc. (Those skills which can otherwise not be demonstrated in color or taught clearly only by asking students to listen to directions). Students will be assessed through classroom work assignments. Numbers of copying and printing pages will be compared to those made after the implementation and use of a document camera.

III.

Activities to Accomplish Objectives	Who Will Be Responsible for Implementation	Resources Needed (not financial)	Timeframe to Accomplish
Students will learn long and short vowel sounds and how to apply word family strategies to decode unfamiliar words	Teachers Teacher Assistants Tutors Students	Document camera Teaching materials already within classroom	Once the document camera is provided these lessons will commence. Activities will be continuous and will include weekly assessments. Two weeks will be given to teach each skill.
Teach students how to use a calculator and some of its functions	Teachers Teacher Assistants Tutors Students	Document camera Teaching materials already within classroom	Once the document camera is provided these lessons will commence. Activities will be continuous and will include quarterly assessments. Two weeks will be given for this skill.
Whole group reading instruction including demonstration of highlighting skills, skimming and scanning of parts of a textbook page, how to read a map or graph, etc.	Teachers Teacher Assistants Tutors Students	Document camera Teaching materials already within classroom	Once document camera is provided these lessons will commence. Activities will be continuous and will include monthly assessments. Two weeks will be given for each skill.
Recording of number of printed materials made from a computer or copying machine for classroom use	Teachers Teacher Assistants Tutors Students	Document camera Teaching materials already within classroom	An assessment will be taken the for a month of the school year

IV. What is the lifespan of this project?

I expect this project to last as long as the equipment does or until the technology becomes so outdated it does not meet the needs of our learners as best as can be done.

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

the special education teachers are the only teachers on the third floor of Logan Middle School not to have a document camera in their rooms this system will be mounted on a movable cart so that it can be shared with at least three other teachers of special needs students in our school. By sharing this technology, we will be able to reach the needs of at least, if not more than, fifty students on a daily basis in pull-out and team taught classes.

VI. Please state how you will collaborate with...

Other organizations in the community (if applicable)

The classes will collaborate with the School of Education from the University of Wisconsin, LaCrosse and education students from Viterbo University. Clinical students, professional development students, tutors, instructors, classroom guests and speakers will work cooperatively with students and staff to best meet students' needs and lesson objectives.

Other schools in the district (if applicable)

N/A

Other departments/classrooms (if applicable)

Students in special needs classrooms, including two learning disabilities classrooms, one classroom for hearing impaired students and one classroom for students with cognitive disabilities will have the opportunity to learn information with this technology as it is shared amongst the teachers for various classes on an hourly and daily basis.

VII. What will happen to the project at the conclusion of the grant? If it is to continue, how will it be sustained?

This is a one-time purchase which will be utilized in the classroom over several years.

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

As a specialist to learning disabled students, I support a variety of classrooms and classroom teachers. This technology is being utilized in these classrooms already. Therefore, more consistent carry-over of materials and learning objectives can take place for all students.

Section 4: Budget Information:

Item	Supplier	Budgeted Amount
Document Camera	DOIT	\$800.00

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

This has been a request given to the administrator of Logan Middle School as well as the director of special education. However, these requests have been denied due to lack of monies.

Total budget to accomplish project: \$800.00

Section 5: Summary:

How will this project bring visibility to LPEF in the community?

I would be more than willing to be part of a “Kids First” program or a “Community Talks” article as well as sharing information with the public through the newspaper, news shows, or a school newspaper. The document camera will be used to support the instruction of lessons in many academic areas including but not limited to reading, writing, math, history, and science for middle school students with disabilities. In addition, it will help to meet the learning styles of students who, more often than not, depend on visual cues to learn skills. By having a document camera in their classroom, these students with disabilities will have the same opportunities all students at Logan Middle School are experiencing in all other rooms. Considering many of these students have limited reading skills, this technology will allow the teacher to show the materials to the large group and, then, interact with these materials in order to teach the students who learn and understand best visually. Students will be able to observe hands-on activities and strategies on a large screen in a large group setting. They will also be able to see these demonstrations more clearly and in color. This technology will play a strong factor in creating a successful learning experience, helping to provide building blocks for further education, as these students continue to acquire skills.

Please provide a one paragraph summary of your project including an explanation of why we should fund your project.

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