



## Foundation For Allen Schools Grant Application

**Scholarship Fund Amount: \$0**

Application #: AP229855

Applicant First Name: Julie

Applicant Last Name: McGary

Applicant Email Address: julie.mcgary@allenisd.org

Gender:

Cell Phone #:

High School:

Post Secondary School:

Application Status: Submitted

### Application Questions and Answer

| Question   | Answer   |
|--|--|
| Preferred name/name that you go by:                            | Julie  |
| Best phone number to reach you at:                             | +19728166778   |
| Campus   | Bolin Elementary School                              |
| Grade(s)   | Kindergarten;1;2;3;4;5;6                             |
| I have co-applicants:  | No   |
| Please provide your work-related Facebook contact information. | Bolin Library Media Center                           |
| Please provide your work-related Twitter contact information.  | @BlazerMcGary  |
| Name of Grant  | Straighten Up! Problem-Based Learning in the Library |
| Please select the MAIN curriculum area your                    |  |

| grant addresses.   | Library / Makerspace |
|--|----------------------|
| Does your grant have a technology component?             | No                   |
| Will other campuses be involved/impacted?                | No                   |
| Will other grades be involved/impacted?                  | Yes                  |
| How many students will be involved in this grant?        | 575                  |
| Are there any additional funds available for this grant? | No                   |

When interviewed by a group of my former AIM (Gifted & Talented) students regarding real-world problems for which they could invent a solution, I realized one of my problems in the Bolin Library Media Center could become the perfect problem-based learning (PBL) opportunity. They asked me, "What doesn't work as well as it should?" I immediately thought about my library shelf section dividers. Ask any librarian with a small budget, and she'll probably confirm that the plastic ones offered through library supply companies are too small, too light, break easily, and cost too much. I've seen the old stand-by option of using cardboard magazine holders to hold the alphabetical/numerical signage get crushed with daily use, and they just end up looking terrible. I told the students I wanted a taller, deeper, more durable and attractive alternative that wouldn't be too expensive. The result? DIY our own wood blocks stained different colors to coordinate with the sections of the library (Everybody, Fiction, Nonfiction). Not only does this PBL solution offer the group of students an opportunity to solve a real-world problem, it helps me with one of my most important jobs as a Librarian - training students to efficiently locate information and use the LMC independently. Now more than ever, it is important for students to develop independence when it comes to their own information literacy as librarians are tasked with much more than keeping books organized. This grant will not only fund the student PBL solution and my current shelving issues, it will help kick off my next initiative of giving even more ownership of the LMC to the

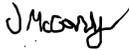
What is the problem, need or opportunity that this grant will address? Describe the impact of this project on your students.

students themselves through an LMC Student Assistant program. I have already trained ALL Bolin students (K-6) how to check in/out their own books and return them to the proper section of the shelving carts. From what I've learned as a new librarian this year, not all schools do this. Students also know that books are best viewed when they are all pulled to the front of the shelves (and not falling over). I see even the youngest of students trying to help keep the LMC "neat and organized." Through this program, students and/or classes will be able to "adopt a shelf" and commit to keeping it straight and well organized. Funding this grant will offer an inquiry learning opportunity which allows students to solve a real-world problem. It will also foster student information literacy. Most of all, it will support Texas School Library Standards and Future Ready Framework for School Librarians here at Bolin through the following: 1) the new section dividers will create an inviting and accessible location with appropriate signage to indicate services, protocols and expectations; 2) the Student Assistant program will cultivate a sense of community; 3) my library funds will be reserved for updating my print and digital resources; and 4) ultimately this improvement will help my library program remain a central element of the school through its impact on student achievement, information literacy, and school culture.

How will the project or program be implemented? Describe activities and tasks. Who is the target population and in what ways will they benefit?

Once materials are purchased, I will need to do some of the DIY at home as it will be messy and require the use of some power tools. To give the students more ownership, they can help with attaching the rubber grip strip to the bottoms and vinyl labeling to the sides of each wood block. They will also help with the removal of the old system and replace it with their new solution. The target audience of the DIY portion will be my former AIM students who helped design the prototype idea, which worked wonderfully. The target audience for the Student Assistant program will be homeroom classes (for the younger grades) and individual students (for older grades) via various approaches including applications, earned reward and/or extra enrichment needs. The target audience for implementing the final

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|  | <p>outcome is EVERY Bolin student (K-6) for many years to come.</p>   |
| <p>Provide a brief summary for use on the Foundation's website and social media.</p>         | <p>Straighten Up! Problem-Based Learning in the Library is a project in which students created a solution to the librarian's problem of inadequate section dividers on the library shelves. Students brainstormed and helped invent a durable, attractive, and inexpensive solution that is much better than anything currently on the market at a much higher price. Unveiling the improved signage will lead to the kick off of an LMC Student Assistant program through which students will adopt a shelf to help keep the resources neat and organized.</p>   |
| <p>Which Allen ISD goals/TEKS does this project support? Please provide 2 or 3 examples.</p> | <p>This student-led project supports the following:<br/> Allen Independent School District Belief Statements: *We believe the development of citizenship in all students is essential to a complete education. *We are responsible for building upon the sense of community we have inherited. Allen Independent School District Goals: *Transform the traditional classroom into an innovative learning experience that meets the needs of the individual learner. *Transform the learning environment by increasing rigor and encouraging innovation so that students become effective problem solvers. *We will foster sustainable opportunities for every person to become a responsible and engaged citizen.</p> |
| <p>What specific measurements will be used to evaluate the effectiveness of the project?</p> | <p>Ultimately this ongoing project will be measured through student participation, work effort, enthusiasm, and a sense of pride as well as the ability to communicate learning, and apply high-level, critical/creative thinking skills/ideas to other areas of their schoolwork. Effectiveness will also be measured through the feedback from students, teachers, administrators, and parents.</p>   |
| <p>What teaching methods will be used to implement this project?</p>                         | <p>As the Library Media Specialist, it is my ongoing responsibility to instruct students regarding how to locate, access and evaluate information resources directly as well as provide them with hands-on training. I expect even the youngest students to partake in this crucial 21st Century skill. Once the section dividers are in place, I will continue my instruction, but Student Assistants can act as</p>   |

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|  | leaders through the adopt-a-shelf program in keeping the LMC neat and organized.  |
| What is the project timeline and the date of implementation?                                 | As soon as funds are available, I will purchase the materials for the project. I expect the completion of the new DIY section dividers to take a few weeks. Following completion, we will kick off the Student Assistant program with an unveiling of the new dividers. I expect these dividers to be a long-lasting (for years and years!) solution to our current problem.  |
| Explain how this idea or project enhances/supports Allen ISD curriculum or existing systems. | It has been proven that brain-based learning helps keep students actively engaged. Helping to solve a real-world problem will be an experiential, brain-based learning opportunity for our students. Students crave responsibility and love doing authentic work. The Student Assistant program will let them do just that while taking a vested interest and ownership of their LMC. This initiative will benefit the whole community and provide a leadership and service opportunity for all Bolin students. I believe that when students can connect with their environment, they take better care of it. At best, I hope our project will inspire other elementary campuses to let students help solve their own campuses' real-world problems and to have students take more ownership and responsibility of their buildings and its resources. |
| Total Grant Budget Requested:  | 200.50  |
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**Project Budget Set Number 1**

| <b>Question</b>                                | <b>Answer</b>    |
|--|------------------|
| Item Type                                      | General Supplies |
| List item to be purchased under item category: | Lumber (Lowe's)  |
| Unit Cost                                      | 7.00             |
| Quantity                                       | 9                |
| Total cost of items in this category:          | 63.00            |

### Project Budget Set Number 2

| <b>Question</b>                                | <b>Answer</b>                   |
|--|---------------------------------|
| Item Type                                      | General Supplies                |
| List item to be purchased under item category: | EasyLiner Supreme Grip (Lowe's) |
| Unit Cost                                      | 16.50                           |
| Quantity                                       | 1                               |
| Total cost of items in this category:          | 16.50                           |

### Project Budget Set Number 3

| <b>Question</b>                                | <b>Answer</b>                         |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| Item Type                                      | General Supplies                      |
| List item to be purchased under item category: | Minwax Stain Clear Tint Base (Lowe's) |
| Unit Cost                                      | 12.00                                 |
| Quantity                                       | 3                                     |
| Total cost of items in this category:          | 36.00                                 |

### Project Budget Set Number 4

| <b>Question</b>                                | <b>Answer</b>                |
|--|------------------------------|
| Item Type                                      | General Supplies             |
| List item to be purchased under item category: | 3M Contact Adhesive (Lowe's) |
| Unit Cost                                      | 15.00                        |
| Quantity                                       | 1                            |
| Total cost of items in this category:          | 15.00                        |

### Project Budget Set Number 5

| <b>Question</b> | <b>Answer</b>    |
|-----------------|------------------|
| Item Type       | General Supplies |

|  |                                |
|--|--------------------------------|
| List item to be purchased under item category: | Permanent Craft Vinyl (Amazon) |
| Unit Cost                                      | 1                              |
| Quantity                                       | 20.00                          |
| Total cost of items in this category:          | 20.00                          |

**Project Budget Set Number 6**

| <b>Question</b>                                | <b>Answer</b>           |
|--|-------------------------|
| Item Type                                      | General Supplies        |
| List item to be purchased under item category: | Misc Student Incentives |
| Unit Cost                                      | 50.00                   |
| Quantity                                       | 1                       |
| Total cost of items in this category:          | 50.00                   |