FOUNDATION FOR ALLEN SCHOOLS

2013 - 14 Educational Grant Application
Deadline: Wednesday, March 20, 2013, by 4pm

Name of Grant: **Let's Leap into Learning!**

Submitted by: Steve DeWitt

Campus/Department: Boon Elementary **Grade Level(s):** K through 6th

Total Dollar Amount Requested: $1,859.67

Number of students who would be involved/impacted by grant: 15 or more

Name of principal or immediate supervisor who will approve submission: Tammie James

Project Summary/Purpose: Be specific. What is the **student need** which the project will address? The purpose should describe **what students will know and be able to do** as a result of this project.

Students with lower functioning special needs love technology! Technology is a valuable educational tool for all students, offering more than Internet access for researching class projects. Today's state-of-the-art technology is opening educational doors for the most challenged students, including children of special needs. This grant will tap into their love of technology to improve motor skills, communication, academic skills, and addressing pre-academic skills such as attention span, following directions, and eye contact.

Technology in education has become so powerful and innovative that special needs student and their teachers can bridge major gaps in learning and come away with an effective and rewarding educational experience. Students with mild disabilities benefit tremendously when teachers integrate technology into the curriculum. At the primary level, students who struggle with developing reading skills can find reading more engaging when using interactive story books. Software products exist that are specifically designed to remediate students' reading abilities – giving teachers more time to devote to other areas (Roblyer, 2006).

With technology product development aimed at students with special needs the possibilities are brighter with each year. With technology proven to help fill gaps for special needs students' teachers must act now and begin integrating these tools into the curriculum.

Project Description: What is the idea and how will it be implemented? Describe activities and tasks. Who is the target population and how will they benefit?

The grant will be used to purchase a LeapPad Explorer Classroom system which includes 5 LeapPad Explorers, 5 carrying cases, 5 AC adapters, 5 headphones, and 5x5 interactive learning games. Also, we will purchase 5 LeapPad2 Explorers which are comes with five apps that encourage creativity and non-stop learning fun. It allows a student to create and nurture their own pet in *Pet Pad*, direct their own animated cartoons in the *Cartoon Director* app, learn and sing along to *LeapFrog Learning Songs* and make masterpieces in the interactive *Art Studio*.

It is a personalized learning tablet for PreK to Grade 2 which is the developmental age of most of the students in the DEAR classroom. It features a broad curriculum encompassing reading, writing, math, science, and life skills. Skill levels adjust automatically to each child's pace as they navigate the learning content. Complementing the curriculum are creativity apps, innovative and immersive reading apps, built-in camera and video recorder.

The LeapPad2 learning tablet comes with five apps that encourage creativity and non-stop learning fun. It allows a student to create and nurture their own pet in *Pet Pad*, direct their own animated cartoons in the *Cartoon Director* app, learn and sing along to *LeapFrog Learning Songs* and make masterpieces in the interactive *Art Studio*.

Which Allen ISD goals/TEKS does this project support? Limit to top two or three examples.

§110.11. (b) Knowledge and skills.

(1) Reading/Beginning Reading Skills/Print Awareness. Students understand how English is written and printed. Students are expected to:
- (A) recognize that spoken words can be represented by print for communication;
- (B) identify upper- and lower-case letters;
- (C) demonstrate the one-to-one correspondence between a spoken word and a printed word in text;
- (D) recognize the difference between a letter and a printed word;

(10) Reading/Comprehension of Informational Text/Expository Text. Students analyze, make inferences and draw conclusions about expository text, and provide evidence from text to support their understanding.

What specific measurements will be used to evaluate the effectiveness of the project?

All of the special needs students have academic and personal development objectives in their Individual Education Plan (IEP) which require activity-based assessment. The teachers/paraprofessionals involved will be able to assess and measure progress of these objectives of each student based on observation of the skill during the class. Additionally, many social skills objectives such as taking turns, working with peers, sharing materials, and following directions can be assessed during the class.

What teaching methods will be used to implement this project?

Direct instruction, guided practice (lots!) and modeling will be the primary teaching methods.

Timeline for project (Funds will be available at the beginning of the 2010-11 school year):

I plan on starting the program on the second week of the 2013-14 school year and continue it throughout the year.

Explain how this idea or project enhances/supports Allen ISD curriculum or existing systems:

This idea supports existing Allen ISD Teks-based curriculum for elementary reading, writing, and math.. This program enhances Allen ISD's system by ensuring each student with special needs has access to technology-based instruction.

Additional comments or information you would like to include: (May attach additional pages.)

As the D.E.A.R. program has grown, so has its needs. This grant will fulfill a real need of the program at Boon. Our student's diversity makes it important to evaluate their unique needs and be ready to respond with programs, activities, and resources that meet those needs. This grant will give us the resources to put into action a program to help children with special needs.

Foundation For Allen Schools: 2013-14 Educational Grant Application

Grant Budget : product numbers, addresses, web sites, etc are not required on this budget page; name of product/training/type of transportation/etc. is sufficient.

Instructional Supplies	Vendor / Supplier	Cost /Item	Total
		0	
		Subtotal	
Technology	**Vendor / Supplier**	**Cost/Item**	**Total**
LeapPad Classroom System	School Specialty	$899.99	$899.99
5 - LeapPad 2 Explorer Pad	LeapFrog.com	$99.99	$499.95
2 - Explorer Cartridge Storage Kit	LeapFrog.com	$9.99	$19.98
10 – Headphones	LeapFrog.com	$14.99	$149.90
5 – LeapPad2 Cases	LeapFrog.com	$17.99	$89.95
10 - LeapPad1/LeapPad2 Ultra Books	LeapFrog.com	$19.99	$199.90
		Subtotal	**$1,859.67**
Staff Dev / Training	**Vendor / Supplier**	**Cost /Item**	**Total**
Transportation	**Vendor / Supplier**	**Cost /Item**	**Total**
Other Expenses	**Vendor / Supplier**	**Cost/Item**	**Total**
TOTAL AMOUNT			**$1,859.67**

Are there any additional funds available for this grant? Campus or district funds? PTA funds? If you have or will be seeking funds from any other sources to help with this project, please explain. No