Grant Number	1256
Project Title	Unified Robotics
Please select the **MAIN** curriculum area your grant addresses.	Special Education
Does your grant have a technology component? (Will you have technology equipment, software, etc. in your budget?)	○ No ◉ Yes

Primary Contact Information

First Name	Lynn
Email	lynn.klodzinski@allenisd.org
Confirm Email	lynn.klodzinski@allenisd.org
Last Name	Klodzinski
Phone Number	972-727-0400
Campus	Allen High School
Main Subject	Special Education
Grade(s)	Please select all applicable.
I have co-applicants.	☐

Social Media

Please provide your work-related social media contact information.

Facebook	
Twitter	
Other (please specify)	
Grant Number	1256

Campus/Student Information

Your campus:	Allen High School
Will other campus' be involved/impacted by this grant?	◉ No ○ Yes
Your grade(s):	
Will other grades be involved/impacted?	◉ No ○ Yes

Project Purpose

What is the problem, need or opportunity that this grant will address? Describe the impact of this project on your students. (500 words or less.)

We have a Unified Robotics Club at Allen High School that pairs students from our Special Education department with peer coaches. This is the first club that allows our Special Education students to have an extracurricular club that meets after the school day. We are patterned after the program that was started in Seattle, Washington several years ago. We use the First Lego League robot kits and build and program robots to complete tasks in the Lego League game format. We also compete as teams in the Sumo Bot format. We will be starting our 4 year of meeting and our club continues to grow. Our program includes students who have graduated from the academic format to being in our Transition program, working to learn vocational skills.

This year our Club benefited from adding a fifth robot to our group, thanks to the Allen Foundation grant last year. This allowed us to organize our students into 5 teams instead of four. This allowed more "hands on" and active building time and reduced the time that students were waiting for their turn to build. As our program continues to grow, we want to keep the team size small by adding more teams. This means we need to add another robot. We anticipate only one student "aging out" of our program and adding more students next year. We will also be holding our meetings at the STEAM center, an exciting avenue for our students.

Project Description

How will the project or program be implemented? Describe activities and tasks.
Who is the target population and in what ways will they benefit? (500 words or less.)

The program is an extracurricular club that meets weekly for 10 weeks during the fall. We conclude our season with a Competition Day. This year we registered as a Unified Robotics Team with the Texas Special Olympics. We are the first Unified Robotics team in the state but hope to help other schools establish this program: in fact, we have been contacted by the state coordinator to tell us that Dallas ISD wants to send teams to compete in our competition day next year. We hophe to be able to help schools in other districts develop teams also.
What happens in club:
1. Peer coaches help guide the teams as they follow a manual to build their robot from a kit. Once the robot is built, the students learn to "drive" the robot and learn basic steps for programming actions that the robot can do independently.
2. Students learn to use a computer program to give the robot specific commands and to operate indepedently.
2.Teams are organized and must select a team name, mascot, color, and develop a team cheer. Teams also make spirit buttons for their team and pass them out at the Competition day. Teams must also research the background of one of the tasks.
3. Competition Day is a full morning of teams competing and working their way through the brackets. Parents and friends are invited and the morning concludes with a medal ceremony. Good sportsmanship is emphasized throughout the program.

Project Summary

Provide a brief summary for use on the Foundation's website and social media. (2-3 brief sentences)

Allen High School students, supported by peer coaches, explore and learn about the world of robotics in the Unified Robotics Club. The first Special Olympics Robotics team in Texas hopes to help other school establish teams and expand this area of interest and competition.

Allen ISD Goals/ TEKS

Which Allen ISD goals/TEKS does this project support? Provide only two or three examples.

1. The use of technology in building and programing (science and CTE)
2. Developing knowledge through research, and then organizing a presentation slideshow. (English)
3. Preparing our Allen Eagle students to be effective problem solvers and to be able to collaborate with others.

Measurement

What specific measurements will be used to evaluate the effectiveness of the project? (500 words or less)

The weekly goals of developing the robot and learning to drive/program the robot will lead to skills for the Competition Day. The research presentation will be presented at the Competition Day, just like the written work is presented for the other teams going to competitions. The team spirit buttons will reflect the teams' decisions on team name, color, and mascot. The peer coaches will be asked to evaluate the program and their feedback will drive improvements in the next year. Getting to involve friends and family on competition day is priceless.

Teaching Methods

What teaching methods will be used to implement this project? (500 words or less.)

1. Peer to peer learning: this program exists because of the peer coaches providing support.
2. The goals for each week will be set out and provided to the peer coaches, who are supported by teachers in the club.
3. The expectations for the team will include robot building/ programming /driving, team building activities, and research/presentation.

Timeline

What is the project timeline and the date of implementation?

The club begins in mid-September and runs for 10 weeks. This club meets weekly, so we meet as many times as other clubs for a school year, but in a condensed time frame.

Curriculum/System Support

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

This enhances the offerings for our Special Education students. The grant would provide another kit, allowing smaller teams and giving students more hands on time with the robots. Smaller teams also allow our peer coaches more time to build relationships and more time to work with each student.

Budget Details ** All awarded funds will be available by September of the next school year.

Budget Item	Type	Item Cost	Unit Quantity	Total Cost
Lego league Robotic kit	Technology	610.0	1	610.0

BUDGET TOTAL 610

Are there any additional funds available for this grant? Campus or District Funds? PTA funds? Let us know if you have or will be seeking funds from other sources to help with this project.

Additional funds? (•) No ( ) Yes

Principal Approval Required

Please provide the Name and Email of your PRINCIPAL. (Not your name)

First Name	Last Name	Email Address(Completed)
Brian	Neely	brian.neely@allenisd.org

Applicant Signature

By entering my name below I signify that I understand that if I move within the District and have written the grant myself, I may take the grant with me to my school (as long as it is appropriate for my classes). If I have written the grant as part of a team, I will leave the grant behind with the team. If I leave AISD, I will leave the grant with the school for which I wrote the grant. As a condition of this grant, I will complete an evaluation form provided by the Foundation.

Signature Lynn Klodzinski

Date 01/31/2019

I certify that this would be a good use of funds for our school and this grant supports the district goals and/or our campus improvement plans. **Do NOT include any identifiers, such as: campus name, your name, teachers name or mascot **

No actions possible.

Comments

Unified Robotics Club at Allen High School pairs students from our Special Education department with peer coaches. This is the first club that allows our Special Education students to have an extracurricular club that meets regularly after school. It teaches our students basic computer skills/ programming, problem solving, and team work. It is a fantastic program for our campus.

State Change History

State Change
lynn.klodzinski@allenisd.org
02/01/2019 10:02:46
Submitted

State Change
******
02/01/2019 10:27:12
Accepted

Grant Status

Grant Awarded
- ○ Yes
- ○ No

Award Amount 610