



Ohio's Race to the Top Innovative Programs Grant Application

Application Period- March 11-April 8, 2011

Please ensure that ALL questions are answered completely in each of the four sections as incomplete applications will not be returned for modifications or completion.

Section A

1. General School Information

<p>a) Name of Applicant (LEA): Southeast Local School District (Wayne Co.)</p>	<p>b) Name of School(s): John R. Lea Middle School</p>
<p>c) Superintendent of Schools: (or equivalent) Name: Dr. Mike Shreffler Address: 9048 Dover Rd. Apple Creek, OH 44606 Telephone: 330-698-3001 Fax: 330-698-5000 Email: soea_shreffl@tccsa.net</p>	<p>d) LEA RHT Contact: Name: Dr. Mike Shreffler Address: 9048 Dover Rd. Apple Creek, OH 44606 Telephone: 330-698-3001 Fax: 330-698-5000 Email: soea_shreffl@tccsa.net</p>

<p>e) School Vision:</p> <p>Our current 7th and 8th grade middle school vision: "For every student to achieve their full potential."</p> <p>Unfortunately, we believe that we have some students that come to us deficient in basic study skills. We also believe that the teacher in the classroom is the single most determinant for student success, and that the AVID program will be a crucial tool to empower the teachers to reach <u>all</u> students regardless of their home environment.</p>	<p>f) School Mission:</p> <p>Our current 7th and 8th grade middle school mission: "Each child may differ, but their opportunities to learn will be equal."</p> <p>With the implementation of AVID, students will no longer be held back because of their cultural background, socioeconomic status, or educational challenges (i.e. learning disabilities).</p>
<p>g) Primary Goals of School:</p> <p>Our current 7th and 8th grade middle school goal: "Increase student achievement on the Ohio Achievement Assessment with the focus on the special education student."</p> <p>AVID will be instrumental in providing our students every opportunity to achieve success.</p>	<p>h) Teacher/Student Ratio:</p> <p>1 : 19.0 (building ratio) 1 : 18.2 (district ratio)</p>

PLEASE NOTE: In you enter into a collaboration with another LEA, please mark with an * who the FISCAL AGENT will be if selected for one of the competitive grants.

Names and titles of individuals who participated in the March 10th Innovation Symposium:

Dr. Mike Shreffler, Superintendent
David Fischer, Director of Curriculum
Brad Herman, Southeast Local Education Association president

2. SCHOOL PROFILE

STUDENT INFORMATION	
Grades served:	
Enrollment (total number of students served in school applying for Innovative Program):	
Grade Level	Enrollment
7	128
8	98

STUDENT INFORMATION		
Ethnicity and gender data (% of enrollment):		
Black: 0.5%	White: 97.2%	Male: 59%
Asian/Pacific Islander: 0.6%	American Indian/Alaska Native: 0.1%	
Hispanic: 1.0%	Multi-Racial: 0.6%	Female: 41%
Percent of students eligible for free/reduced lunch: 45%		
Percent of students identified as special education: 14%		
Names of current competitive grants LEA has been awarded (2010-2011): n/a		
Please attach 2009-2010 school Report Card:		

Section B

1. Please check circle(s) next to the specific Innovative Program(s) for which you are applying. Prioritize your preference order to the right of the program, with "1" being your first priority. **A separate application must be submitted for each Innovative Program.**

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Asia Society (International Studies Schools Network) | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | AVID * | 1 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Early College High School | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | New Tech Network | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | STEM* | _____ |

***Priority may be given to the lowest-achieving schools**

Section C

Questions Addressing Innovation Selected- Please answer these questions in the text boxes provided. Provide as many details as possible so that the reviewers can gain a good picture of your school.

1. Identify your selected Innovative Program and the reasons for selection.

Southeast Local Schools is actively seeking the Innovative Program, AVID, because we believe in data-driven decision making. We have met with varying degrees of success trying to prepare students for the rigors of post-secondary education. Unfortunately, there is no data to support what endeavors have been successful and for what reasons. AVID will provide the structured program, the tools, and the supportive data that we have been seeking.

Southeast Local Schools is comprised of four rural villages and a countryside that spans three counties and covers a geographic area of approximately 1700 mi² (one of the largest geographic districts in the state). The major economic opportunities include agricultural development, special skills trades, and small business owners. Our K-6 student enrollment is comprised of 25% Amish students and collectively has approximately 50% free/reduced lunch recipients (45% district total). Our high school graduates approximately 110 students per school year, none of which are Amish or strict Mennonite. Of these 110 students 45-50% enter a four-year college/university. However, demographic data has shown that less than 10% of the adults in our school district have obtained a bachelors degree or higher. Although we do not have firm data, it is safe to assume that many of the students that enter college do not successfully obtain a bachelors degree.

Our community is supportive and understands the value of a college degree in today's economic climate. Unfortunately, the parents in our community are not familiar with higher education, and they realize that they are not equipped to assist their own sons and daughters in preparing them for college. Therefore, we know that the school district bears this burden, and we welcome the opportunity of equipping our first-generation college bound students with the tools to successfully obtain a degree.

2. In what other school transformation strategies has your school been engaged and its/their status.

Southeast Local District and John R. Lea Middle School (JRL) have been actively involved in exploring various innovative educational options to transform our learning community. We have voluntarily entered RtT and the OIP. John R. Lea Middle School has been selected to pilot the internationally renowned OLWEUS anti-bullying program. Also, JRL has been actively working to provide all students individualized attention in order to promote college and career readiness. We have created a daily schedule that allows for individualized intervention, called Prime Time. Prime Time is being utilized to provide credit recovery and acceleration to target groups of students using various online course work such as Brainchild. Our school would like to incorporate the AVID college readiness system to provide even more tools for promoting student success and college readiness. JRL also incorporates an innovative, building generated, financial literacy unit in conjunction with the University of Akron – Wayne College, Stark State College, and the Wayne County Schools Career Center, which in turn promotes college and career readiness.

3. Describe the capacity your LEA/school has to ensure a successful implementation.

District level support and new administrative leadership at the middle school has established teacher team planning time. Beginning with the 2010-2011 academic year a forty-five minute teacher directed intervention period for every 7th and 8th grade student (Prime Time) has been implemented. Therefore, we believe we can implement AVID with fidelity and incorporate the AVID methodologies across content areas. Through our current master schedule, the AVID elective is an ideal fit for the purpose of the Prime Time program.

The district will work with the College of Wooster (located within 15 miles) education program to provide tutors to work with the AVID program.

4. How will you integrate the specific Innovative Program into your school culture and current transformation plan/Scope of Work?

As we progress through the Ohio Improvement Process (OIP) our middle school building leadership team (BLT) will focus on college readiness. Our Scope of Work (SOW) has focused on intervention at the middle school prior to entering high school. In the Southeast Local SOW we identified credit recovery and summer camp prior to entering high school. We foresee AVID becoming an integral program serving as the conduit to connect other specific innovative improvement programs.

5. How will implementation of this Innovative Program increase student achievement and progress in your LEA/school for ALL students?

As discussed earlier, all middle school students have an intervention period (Prime Time) scheduled into each school day. Although AVID will focus on a specific group of students, our AVID trained team will be able to implement these innovative strategies for ALL students. These strategies will not only be integrated during every student's intervention period (Prime Time), but will also be integrated into the everyday subject area content. Data will continue to be collected and monitored to ensure progress towards increased student achievement, closing the achievement gap, and student preparedness for a more rigorous college preparatory path.

6. How will you sustain this Innovative Program post RttT?

Our school has a proven record of devoting financial resources and time to high quality professional development. We have utilized professional waiver days and have brought in substitutes for teachers to receive high quality professional development and training. Our financial obligation has been equally divided amongst various sources ensuring its viability. These sources include: negotiated, contractual time before and after school hours, funding via Title I, Title IID, Rural VI B, and board of education approved (and encouraged) general fund expenditures.

7. Describe any potential challenges or barriers with the mandatory professional development and Innovative Program requirements for the framework that you have selected. What strategies will your LEA/school implement to overcome these potential obstacles?

Through our original SOW, our administration and education association have already begun to eliminate any contractual challenges for successful implementation of high quality professional development and/or innovative school programs. However, we can overcome these obstacles through collaboration for such things as compensation for work beyond a normal school day and collaboration of student/teacher schedules.

8. How will the implementation of this Innovative Program increase college and career readiness of all students?

We believe through AVID we can both ensure that all incoming high school students have the tools to achieve academic success and are adequately equipped for a rigorous college-readiness curriculum. We can utilize our existing parent involvement strategies and increase our local college volunteers to further communicate the importance and value of taking a rigorous high school program. This message is not only designed to inform our students, but their parents as well. Through this familiarization, we will begin to develop a sense of hope for personal achievement gained through hard work and determination that college is an obtainable goal for ALL students.

9. Identify a timeline to achieve a successful implementation.

Upon receipt of the Innovative Program/AVID grant our timeline will be as follows:

May – July: Coordination with AVID divisional staff to work with our middle school staff to prepare for implementation in school year 2011-2012

July - August: Summer Institute Training

September: AVID Elective Begins

In the event we are not awarded the grant in year 2 (2011-2012 school year), we will reevaluate our limited resources to possibly pursue the AVID program at a later date.

10. Why should your LEA/school be awarded an Innovative Programs grant?

Southeast Local already has a proven success record with a disadvantaged population. This is evidenced by our state report card. Although the Innovative Program grant application gives AVID a priority to lowest achieving schools; we believe we have a low achieving, disadvantaged student population, and our current proven track record of success with them. Therefore, we do not believe we should be penalized because we are a high achieving school district. We believe that AVID is the critical piece to help us achieve the success we are looking for through the RtT and OIP programs to promote our students beyond high school.

SECTION D

Please include LEA Name, IRN#, and proposed Innovation Program information at the top of this table. Include a breakdown of the annual expenditures anticipated in each budget category during each grant-year that equals the total dollar amount of the innovation program selected.

Please find attached below the budget grid provided by AVID. We believe this will be the estimated cost to our district to implement AVID. Those areas that are highlighted in green are reflected in the budget cells below as Purchased Service. Additionally, you will note our budget includes money with an asterisk attached. This is our best estimate for our cost of implementation that we will incur as an in-kind contribution. (Noting the grant will be \$14,000 per year and our estimated costs will exceed this amount.)

Proposed Innovation:					
Budget Categories	FY2011	FY2012	FY2013	FY2014	Total
Salaries (100)		\$8000.00*	\$8000.00*	\$8000.00*	\$ 24,000.00
Retirement/ Fringe Benefits (200)		\$500.00*	\$500.00*	\$500.00*	\$ 1,500.00
Purchase Services (400)		\$21,757.00	\$12,750	\$7,065.00	\$41,572.00
Supplies (500)		\$500.00*	\$500.00*	\$500.00*	\$ 1,500.00
Capital Outlay (600)					
9. Total Costs		\$30,757.00	\$21,750.00	\$16,065.00	\$68,572.00

Site Costs	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
<i>AVID Membership Fee</i>	\$3,195	\$3,355	\$3,520
<i>Summer Institute Fee</i>	\$5,192	\$3,395	\$3,545
<i>AVID Libraries: Middle School</i>	\$4,370	0	0
<i>AVID District Professional Service Fee</i>	\$9,000	\$6,000	0
<i>Subtotal - AVID Contract Costs</i>	<i>\$21,757</i>	<i>\$12,750</i>	<i>\$7,065</i>
<i>Tutor Cost</i>	\$4,320	\$8,640	\$12,960
<i>Continuing Staff Development</i>	\$1,050	\$1,050	\$1,050
<i>Travel and Lodging</i>	Varies	Varies	Varies
Total Approximate Costs	\$27,672	\$22,440	\$21,075

RttT Innovative Programs grant applications may be found on the Ohio Department of Education website under Race to the Top at:

<http://www.ode.state.oh.us/GD/Templates/Pages/ODE/ODEDetail.aspx?page=694>

Interested LEA/Schools are required to submit the requested grant information electronically to jay.keeper@ode.state.oh.us no later than **Friday, April 8, 2011.**

Questions may be directed to

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