

# Ohio's Race to the Top Innovative Programs Grant Application Application Period- March 11-May 20, 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

a) <b>Name of Applicant (LEA)</b> : Cardinal Local School District	b) Name of School(s) First Year: Cardinal High School Second Year: add Cardinal Middle School Third Year: add Cardinal Intermediate School
c) Superintendent of Schools: (or equivalent) Name: Paul Yocum	d) <b>LEA RttT Contact</b> : Name: Kim Richards
Address: 16000 East High Street Middlefield OH 44062	Address: Cardinal Local School District 16000 East High Street Middlefield OH 44062
Telephone: 440 6320261	Telephone: 440 6320261
Fax: 440 6325886	Fax: 440 6325886
Email: paul.yocum@cardinalschools.org	Email: Kim.richards@cardinalschools.org
e) School Vision: Engaging and challenging students for educational and career opportunities in the 21st century: *provide opportunities to achieve their potential according to world class standards *integrate state of the art technology throughout the curriculum and operation for students and staff	f) <b>School Mission</b> : Preparing for college, career, and life in a nurturing environment with community partnerships, through the use of innovative instructional practices and an infusion of technology.  It is the mission of the Cardinal School Community to provide an engaging, motivating and safe environment for the development of all students to be successful, productive lifelong learners and responsible members of society.

*enrich curriculum and instruction through the development of stff, facilities and resources *enhance trust and cooperation between the school and community	
g) Primary Goals of School: A commitment to serve underrepresented students in higher education. Engage all students in a comprehensive support system that develops academic and social skills as well as the behaviors and conditions necessary for college completion. To have and sustain the community, local education agency and higher education institution's commitment to student success.	h) Teacher/Student Ratio: 1 to 14

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

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

James Millet, Kim Richards, Jean Jerina

## 2. SCHOOL PROFILE

STUDENT INFORMATION			
Grades served:			
Enrollment (total number Innovative Program):	r of students served in sc	hool applying for	
Grade Level	Enre	ollment	
Pre K-5	599		
6	98		
7	96		
8	115		
9		122	
10	106		
11	96		
12	81		
Ethnicity and gender data (% of enrollment):			
Black: (6) .4%	White: (1295) 97.1%		
Asian/Pacific Islander: 0	American Indian/Alaska Native: (3) .1%	Male: (698) 52%	
Hispanic: (6) .4%	Multi-Racial: (23)	Female: (615) 48%	

STUDENT INFORMATION			
	1.7%		
Percent of students eligible for free/reduced lunch: 569 or 42.5%			
Percent of students identified as special education: 242 or 18.1%			
Names of current competitive grants LEA has been awarded (2010-2011):Race to the Top, e-Tech School Grant pending			
Please attach 2009-2010	) school Report Card:		
http://www.ode	e.state.oh.u	s/reportcardfile	
s/2009-2010/D	IST/047175.po	<u>df</u>	

#### **Section B**

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## **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. (Note: If "Other", please include research evidence that justifies how the "other" innovation will accelerate student achievement and progress.

Avid is our selected Innovative Program and our reasons for selecting it are delineated in their fact sheet. They are listed below:

Closing the achievement gap and preparing students for success in a global society are significant educational reform challenges that must be met now, particularly for low-income and minority students.

Improving students' critical thinking, reading and writing abilities allows them to participate and succeed in courses of high rigor and better prepares them for postsecondary access and success.

Building cultures of college-and career-readiness and confidence in the ability of all students to achieve their dreams creates an exponentially positive momentum to transform schools and school districts. Our district population meets the profile of an AVD student who would benefit from its' program.

Our school district is applying for three different grants that all dovetail and complement each other. The AVID program will help us ready students for higher education. As a rural school district comprised of three townships, our population is comprised of families working in blue collar positions; mostly agriculture, construction, factory, and assembly. With a median income of only \$32,000, even our non-free and reduced lunch families struggle with meeting their basic needs...contributing to the students' underachievement. Because of the extra burden this places on our families only about 25% attend a four year college even though our graduation rate is 93%. Sadly even fewer actually graduate. Our families, even with their added economic burdens, want a better future for their children. Demographics indicate that many of our students could be the first, in their family, to attend a four year university. Because many of our students currently do not attend college they remain in the community and in our district further perpetuating the unpromising socio-economic future of this area. AVID, with its' emphasis on serving underachieving students will helps us provide the intensive support and the creation of a "culture" which will help support their college goals.

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

Currently our school district is involved in Race to the Top and have recently successfully completed our goals for this first year. In addition, we are involved with the Ohio School Improvement process. We have already begun aligning the goals and scope of work of these two initiatives. We are in the first year of Race to the Top and the third year of the Ohio School Improvement process.

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

With the alignment of the Race to the Top and Ohio Improvement plan goals and scope of work, the collective finances of RttT and AVD will enable us to train staff, provide on-going support and purchase equipment necessary to fully implement the program. Cardinal's close proximity to Kent State University (Geauga Branch), Hiram College and Lakeland Community College, allows us easy access to a pool of available tutors and exposure to the college experience. Additionally, AVID's planning guide offers strong support which we will fully utilize to ensure success.

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

In discussing best strategy for the implementation of a successful plan, Rosemary Ellis, AVID Director for our region, recommended the slow but steady implementation of critical program components, with full implementation being achieved by year three. We will follow that recommendation with the option of accelerated implementation if the opportunity presents itself. We will first begin with AVID tutors, classes etc within our high school, thereby enabling students from lower grades to move into an existing program. In subsequent years, the middle school programs (curriculum and tutorials) and lastly the elementary classes/skills will be taught. In addition to the above we will follow the pre-scribed AVID plan recommended in their literature:

- School and district leaders set the vision and the tone that promotes college readiness and high expectations for all students.
- Trained Site Team members mentor and support all teachers in implementing AVID strategies, methodologies and resource materials so all students in the school benefit.
- All classrooms are modeled on the AVID classroom to increase student achievement and parent engagement across the entire school.
- AVID division staff and consultants provide ongoing coaching, training and support to transform the culture.
- **5.** How will implementation of this Innovative Program increase student achievement and progress in your LEA/school for ALL students?

As indicated in the data collected by AVID Center over a five year period (2006-2010) success of AVID students, as compared to national averages, achievement was attained for all students regardless of ethnicity. AVID Center looked at completion of college entrance requirements. For example: American Indian 21% national average as opposed to 87% for AVID students. For all represented groups AVID students exceeded national averages by MORE than 40-50%. Of particular interest to Cardinal Schools, is the white, non-Hispanic group, which constitutes more the than 95% of our current population, even that group AVID student were at 90% vs. 39% for the national average. In addition to the success of the students to enter college and complete it, students also benefit from the challenging curriculum beginning in fourth grade. The reading, note taking, writing, time management and collaborative skills taught in the elementary and middle school years add to a student's over-all success.

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

Cardinal Local School District will be able to sustain the AVID program because, once full implementation is achieved, on-going costs for the program are minimal. As indicated in their literature major costs are front loaded and support is given to schools to ensure continued success through their annual membership and licensing fee. In addition, School Improvement monies, Title 1 and parental/community donations can help sustain the program. Below is AVID's list of suggestions for continued sustenance:

AVID is an extremely cost-effective solution that embeds sustainability into a school through the methodologies and professional development that become part of the school culture.

Implementation costs are frontloaded during the first three years of implementation so that sustaining the program in the long run is affordable.

Funding sources can be used to sustain AVID, such as Title I, Title II PP, School Improvement, GEAR UP, and any other local dollars.

AVID Center helps to sustain the program by providing member schools with:

- Divisional training events
- Ongoing Site Team Support
- Annual Certification Process
- Ongoing technical assistance from Program Managers and consultants
- 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?

The AVID framework presents few barriers as its' structure has many built-in supports. With that said, I do feel some of our barriers may be within the walls of our school. Having a gradual implementation plan will allow us to help staff and parents understand and commit to the program thereby easing fears and nurturing cooperation. Another obstacle may be the unpaid time expectations from staff and reconciling that with the collective bargaining contract. I have tried to build into the budget some room for supplemental contract monies as incentive for teachers to take on the curriculum demands of AVID, thus adhering to the provisions of the collective bargaining contract.

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

In addition to the AVID goals listed below, Cardinal Students on free and reduced lunch will have the necessary support and peer culture that cultivates motivation and desire to tackle college. The AVID College Readiness System was designed to increase the college-readiness of all students in a school. AVID works because it:

- Accelerates under achieving students into more rigorous courses
- Teaches academic skills not targeted in other classes
- Provides intensive support with in-class tutors
- Creates a positive peer group for students
- Develops a sense of hope for personal achievement gained through hard work and determination

In Ohio AVID schools, 99.2% of AVID students are enrolled in a "College Prep" track of courses.

9. Identify a timeline to achieve a successful implementation.

The following time line is one recommended by AVID in association with ODE. I've have modified it to reflect our gradual start and the particulars of our district.

June- August 2011: AVID divisional staff work s with schools to prepare for implementation in school year 2011-2012

July – August 2011: Summer Institute Training for staff

August-September 2011: Recruit, hire and train tutors

September-December 2011: AVID Elective Begins at Cardinal High School

December'11-June 2012: Data gathering planning for next academic year

June-August 2012: Train staff for Middle School implementation

Hire, train additional tutors if needed

August-December 2012; Implement Middle School

December '12-June 2013: Continued Implementation

Gather data, evaluate, plan for next academic year

June-August 2013: Train staff for Elementary School implementation

August-December 2013: Implementation of Elementary School curriculum, look into alternative funding sources

December' 13-June '14: Gather data, evaluate program progress, plan for following year, tap into new funding

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

Cardinal Local School District is a small working class community with a strong sense of identity. Over the last 30 years, that identity has changed dramatically. The strong Amish presence in the community is still very evident; however, their presence in our schools has diminished tremendously due to the building of their Supreme Court victory and the consequent building of their own schools. The community has changed even more dramatically in the past 10 years due to economics: our poverty rate has increased by more than 10%, the number of rentals and lowincome housing options has also increased. In spite of these challenges, Cardinal Local School District continues to reach impressive goals on the state report card. As the family liaison for the largest of our school community, I am in constant contact and interaction with parents, community members and teachers. I have yet to meet a parent, here at Cardinal who does not want the best for their child. Given their consistent achievements (State Report Card), I believe it is a community who will rally to move their students further along the ladder of success.

#### **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. Cardinal Local School District IRN# is 024547

The first budget that follows is taken from the ODE site from the AVID Power Point presentation. In talking with, Rosemary Ellis and Lee Feltz I modified the suggested budget below and developed the overall budget for our district. It is very possible, that the costs in the District budget may be revised depending upon several factors. With the little guidance and conflicting information received, some direction on this budget is requested and will be greatly appreciated.

AVID Membership Fee	\$3,195	\$3,355	\$3,520
Summer Institute Fee	\$5,192	\$3,395	\$3,545
AVID Libraries High School Middle School \$4,370	\$4,915	0	0
AVID District Professional Service Fee	\$9,000	\$6,000	0
Subtotal - AVID Contract Costs	\$22,302	\$12,750	\$7,065
Tutor Cost	\$4,320	\$8,640	\$12,960
Continuing Staff Development	\$1,050	\$1,050	\$1,050
Travel and Lodging	\$5,000	\$3,000	\$2000

Proposed Innovation:					
<b>Budget Categories</b>	FY2011	FY2012	FY2013	FY2014	Total
Salaries (100)	n/a	\$14,302	\$18640	\$22,960	\$ \$55902
Retirement/ Fringe Benefits (200)	n/a				\$ -
Purchase Services (400)	n/a	\$22,302	\$12750	\$7065	\$ \$42117
Supplies (500)	n/a				\$ -
Capital Outlay (600)	n/a				\$ -
Other (800)	n/a	\$6,158	\$4050	\$4050	\$ \$14258
9. Total Costs	\$ -	\$42,672-	\$35,440-	\$34,075-	\$ 112,187

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 <u>jay.keefer@ode.state.oh.us</u> no later than Friday, May 20, 2011.

Questions may be directed to Jay R. Keefer Director, ONET (Ohio Network for Education Transformation) Center for School Improvement 614.644.2605 jay.keefer@ode.state.oh.us

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