



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

<p>a) Name of Applicant (LEA): Columbus City Schools</p>	<p>b) Name of School(s): Beechcroft High School</p>
<p>c) Superintendent of Schools: (or equivalent) Name: Dr. Gene T. Harris</p> <p>Address: 270 E. State Street Columbus, OH 43215</p> <p>Telephone: 614-365-5888</p> <p>Fax: 614-365-5689</p> <p>Email: gharris@columbus.k12.oh.us</p>	<p>d) LEA RttT Contact: Name: Keith Bell</p> <p>Address: 270 E. State Street Columbus, OH 43215</p> <p>Telephone: 614-365-5777</p> <p>Fax: 614-365-6456</p> <p>Email: kbell@columbus.k12.oh.us</p>
<p>School Vision: A part of the philosophy of Beechcroft High School is to provide a safe, positive learning environment. Goals: To improve the quality of teaching and learning, To build a learning community for our staff, To ensure that all students have a challenging curriculum that prepares them for the future, To improve and increase parental involvement.</p>	<p>e) School Mission:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Each student is highly educated, prepared for leadership and service, and empowered for success as a citizen in a global community.</p>
<p>Primary Goals of School: 1) Matriculate all students to the next grade level. 2) Ensure the success of our senior students (increase graduation rate to 90%). 3) Increase attendance rating to 95%. 4) Increase the percentage of students achieving accelerated and advanced on each OGT section.</p>	<p>Teacher/Student Ratio: 12:1</p>

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

Columbus City Schools Attendees

(both registered and walk-in)

March 10, 2011 ODE Symposium on the Race to the Top Innovative Program Grants

DISTRICT LEVEL	
Name	Title
Dr. Gene Harris	Superintendent
Keith Bell	Deputy Superintendent – LEA Contact
Suzy Rhett	Executive Director, Curriculum Leadership and Development
Dr. John Farley	Director, Development
Rod Houpe	Chief Information Officer
Jacqueline Ralls	Director, School Improvement
Helena Dameron	Supervisor, Reading Curriculum
Sheila Scott	Director, Career Technical Curriculum
Twana Young	Director, Mathematics and Science Curriculum
Danny Graves	Director, Social Studies and World Languages Curriculum
Jill Dannemiller	Director, Federal Programs
Dr. Paul Lucas	Director, Instructional Information Services
Dr. Mary Jo Reinhard	School and Community Resources Coordinator
Nancy Butterman	World Languages Coordinator
Betsy Bhasker	School and Community Resources Coordinator
SCHOOL LEVEL	
Name	Title and Location
Ameer Kim El-Mallawany	Principal, International High School
William Doermann	Principal, Westmoor Middle School
Tim Donahue	Principal, Woodward Park Middle School
Daniel Martin	Principal, West High School

2. SCHOOL PROFILE

STUDENT INFORMATION		
Grades served: 9-12		
Enrollment (total number of students served in school applying for Innovative Program): 721		
Grade Level	Enrollment	
Pre K-5		
6		
7		
8		
9	220	
10	159	
11	168	
12	160	
Ethnicity and gender data (% of enrollment):		
Black: 80.58%	White: 10.26%	Male: 52.84%
Asian/Pacific Islander: 0.55%	American Indian/Alaska Native: 0.14%	
Hispanic: 6.93%	Multi-Racial: 1.53%	Female: 47.16%
Percent of students eligible for free/reduced lunch: 75.45%		
Percent of students identified as special education: 21.64%		
Names of current competitive grants LEA has been awarded (2010-2011):		
<u>State Grants</u>		<u>Federal Grants</u>
Adult Full Service Center		Race to the Top
Alternative Challenge		Carl Perkins Adult
International Education		Carl Perkins Secondary
Parent Mentor		Title II-D EETT
School Psychologist Internship		Refugee Children Impact
High Schools that Work		Title I McKinney Vento (Homeless)
ABLE		Title IA Literacy Initiatives
EL/Civics		Youth START Excellence
		Reading First
		Hearing Impaired

STUDENT INFORMATION	
	OTIF Incentive Awards
	Teacher Quality Partnership
	Foreign Language Assistance Program
	NASA NSPIRES
Please attach 2009-2010 school Report Card:	
http://www.ode.state.oh.us/reportcardfiles/2009-2010/BUILD/068528.pdf	

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.**

- Asia Society (International Studies Schools Network)** _____
- AVID * Year Two Implementation, 2012-13** 7
- Early College High School** _____
- New Tech Network** _____
- STEM*** _____

***Priority may be given to the loSouth-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.

Beechcroft High School (BHS) has selected AVID as a much needed and desired Innovative Program. The feeder middle school, Woodward Park, has also applied for an AVID RttT Innovative Grant as it also feeds into Northland High School, an existing AVID site. If Woodward Park MS implements AVID, then ideally their AVID students would be able to continue with AVID at either Northland HS or Beechcroft HS. Beechcroft High School, one of 19 urban high schools in CCS, has achieved: Effective status; Met AYP; and Met 9 of 12 State Indicators as indicated by the 2009-10 school report card.

The AVID program is selected as an Innovative Program at BHS to close the achievement gap by preparing all Beechcroft students for college readiness and success in a global society. It has a proven 30-year record of increasing the college enrollment of traditionally underserved students, providing an intensive professional development program, and providing a school-wide transformational approach that increases the achievement of all students. AVID is able to support and strengthen the reform efforts currently in progress at BHS. It is cost effective to implement and sustain and BHS has the capacity to successfully implement the program beginning with school year 2012-13.

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

Beechcroft High School is part of the “High Schools That Work” (HSTW) program which is the nation’s largest school improvement initiative designed to increase student achievement and high school graduation rates. Also, our “Peace, Pride, Progress” program accelerates an engaging learning environment where differences are celebrated and the common traits of successful people are developed and enhanced, preparing students for the real world. These school transformation and support strategies will continue at BHS. The addition of the AVID program will strengthen the existing model.

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

LEA: The staff and administration at CCS, as well as the Columbus Education Association (CEA), are committed to successfully utilizing the RttT funds to transform the district. The district has the political expertise and human capital, including human resource experts, dedicated professional development staff, curriculum leadership staff, data analysts, budget and treasurer's office support, principals, and teaching staff to adequately support the RttT Plan. CEA members and the district leadership will work together to implement the reforms.

CEA and CCS have had a long and productive history of collaboration to improve teaching and learning in order to increase student success. Often sustained for up to twenty years or more, programs developed through this collaboration such as Peer Assistance and Review (PAR), and the Reform Panel (the review board responsible for the fidelity of implementation of RttT) have gradually, yet dramatically changed the culture and the climate towards collaborative leadership in CCS. CEA and CCS have had a long and productive history of collaboration to improve teaching and learning in order to increase student success.

The CCS AVID District Director, Dr. Mary Jo Reinhard, has completed the AVID District Leadership Training over the last two years and is fully prepared to implement the AVID program at BHS with fidelity. The AVID District Leadership Training began with participation in the AVID 2009 Summer Institute and continued with 4, 2-3 day trainings that included visits at AVID Demonstration Schools. She has established a relationship and rapport with the AVID Center personnel. Dr. Reinhard attended the ODE March 10 Innovation Symposium. An AVID District Co-Director has been identified and will begin training at the AVID 2011 Summer Institute. The CCS AVID District Co-Directors will be sure to utilize the AVID Center division staff to provide ongoing coaching, training and support to BHS to plan and implement the AVID program.

Columbus City Schools has a wide array of local corporate, foundation, and higher education support and will continue to engage these partners as we implement the AVID RttT Innovation Program. During the first two years of AVID implementation in CCS at two high schools, the AVID program has partnered with The Mentoring Center of Central Ohio to deliver training to college students who serve as tutors in the AVID classrooms; became an approved off-campus site for Federal Work-Study students at The Ohio State University and Columbus State Community College; arranged many student visitations to local, state, and out-of-state college campuses, and partnered with numerous business/community entities in career development activities. Beechcroft High School will benefit from these partnerships and planned activities as well.

SCHOOL:

The leadership at BHS is also committed to implementing AVID with fidelity. The principal, Anthony Alston, has researched AVID and collaboratively discussed its implementation with CCS middle school principals and executive directors. He along with the School Leadership Team understand the requirements of AVID and will insure that: an AVID Site Team is formed; 8 staff members are trained at an AVID 2012 Summer Institute; the AVID class is incorporated into the school schedule; students are recruited and selected to begin in fall, 2012; and the process of incorporating AVID methodologies school-wide is begun.

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

The school and district leaders have set the vision and the tone that promotes college readiness and high expectations for all students. This vision has laid the foundation for the successful integration of AVID into the school culture at BHS. Trained Site Team members at BHS will mentor and support all teachers in implementing AVID strategies, methodologies, and resource materials so that all students in the school may benefit. All classrooms will eventually model the AVID classroom to increase student achievement and parent engagement across the entire school. The AVID Center division staff and consultants will provide ongoing coaching, training and support to assist in transforming the culture. AVID is able to support and strengthen the reform efforts currently in progress at BHS.

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

According to the AVID website (www.avid.org), implementation of AVID at BHS will increase student achievement and progress for all students.

Highlights from AVID High School Studies:

- The AVID, AVID/GEAR UP, and GEAR UP groups raised their anticipations level by increasing their level of satisfaction from Associate's to Bachelor's over the 2-year period.
- Students who felt nurtured stayed in AVID; personal bonds with the AVID teachers were key to continuing in the program for four years.
- The family-like atmosphere of AVID was important to students' morale, self-esteem and determination.
- While not statistically significant, higher aspirations and college knowledge were found among AVID and GEAR UP students.
- AVID high schools improved their accountability ratings as measured by the Texas Assessment of Academic Skills and dropout rates, over the 4-year study period.

In addition, over 98% of AVID high school seniors graduate from high school and over 71% are accepted to four-year colleges – consistently. (Source: AVID Center-AVID General Data Collection, School Years 20001-02 through 2009-10.)

With fidelity to the implementation of the AVID Program, BHS can also achieve these stellar results.

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

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. BHS plans to supplement and sustain AVID with general fund dollars.

In addition, AVID Center helps to sustain the program by providing member schools with divisional training events, ongoing Site Team Support, Annual Certification Process, and 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 ?

If awarded funding, BHS will be the third high school in CCS to implement AVID. All AVID sites will work collaboratively to assist those newly implemented and improve the existing sites.

BHS is fully aware of the requirement for staff members to attend AVID Summer Institute: 8 in 2012, 5 in 2013, and 5 in 2014 (not funded by RttT dollars) as well as the need for fidelity to the 11 AVID essentials and use of data. There are no challenges or barriers identified at this time for the implementation of AVID at BHS beginning school year 2012-13. If any arise, BHS will collaborate with the AVID District Director, other district personnel and AVID sites to work through the issues. Local AVID Program Managers and consultants can provide technical assistance and support by phone, e-mail or in-person.

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

The mission of AVID is to close the achievement gap by preparing all students for college readiness and success in a global society. The AVID College Readiness System 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. (Source: AVID webinar, March 31, 2011)

9. Identify a timeline to achieve a successful implementation.

The plan of how AVID will be incorporated into the existing grade-level teams has been already been completed. Upon receiving the AVID Innovative award, BHS will enter into contract with AVID for the 2012-13 school-year, send 8 staff members to AVID Summer Institute for professional development during the summer of 2012, and carry out their plans to implement for school year 2012-13. Ongoing, the AVID Site Team will work to implement with fidelity the 11 AVID Essentials.

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

Beechcroft High School should be awarded the AVID Innovative grant because they need it, want it, will be part of an AVID feeder pattern, and they are capable of successfully implementing the program.

The students and staff of Beechcroft High School need AVID. Beechcroft High School, one of 19 urban high schools in CCS, has achieved: Effective status; Met AYP; and Met 9 of 12 State Indicators as indicated by the 2009-10 school report card. In this large urban city, a low percentage of parents are college-degreed and not enough promote a college education for their children. Research shows that children are most influenced by their parents. BHS needs assistance in building that college bound culture. AVID is the Innovative Program that can assist them in achieving that goal.

The staff members of BHS want AVID at their school. They have investigated the program and are enthusiastic and committed to its implementation with fidelity.

The feeder middle school, Woodward Park, has also applied for an AVID RtT Innovative Grant as it also feeds into Northland High School, an existing AVID site. If Woodward Park MS implements AVID, then ideally their AVID students would be able to continue with AVID at either Northland HS or Beechcroft HS.

BHS is capable of implementing the AVID program with fidelity. The infrastructure of a district-wide AVID program already exists with a trained AVID District Director in place, a Co-Director identified, partnerships for AVID tutors in place, and a collaborative, supportive system for school sites new to AVID. The BHS school leadership team is committed to AVID and enthusiastic about the opportunity to implement it at Beechcroft 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.

Columbus City Schools IRN# 043802		Proposed Innovation: AVID			
Budget Categories	FY2011	FY2012	FY2013	FY2014	Total
Salaries (100)					\$ -
Retirement/ Fringe Benefits (200)					\$ -
Purchase Services (400)		\$16,325.00	\$14,188.40		\$30,513.40
Supplies (500)		\$4,915.00			\$ 4,915.00
Capital Outlay (600)					\$ -
Other (800)		\$3,760.00	\$3,811.60		\$ 7,571.60
9. Total Costs		\$ 25,000.00	\$ 18,000.00		\$ 43,000

Budget Narrative:

Purchased Services – AVID Summer Institute Fee, Travel
 Supplies – AVID Middle School Curriculum Library
 Other – AVID Membership Fee, Indirect Cost of 1.62%

Interested LEA/Schools are required to submit the requested grant information electronically to jay.keeper@ode.state.oh.us 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.keeper@ode.state.oh.us

Barbara Boone
 Director, Office of
 Educational Reform
 Center for School Improvement
 614.644.5570
Barbara.boone@ode.state.oh.us

