

Brecksville-Broadview Heights City Schools
Teacher Technology Grant Application
Spring, 2008

This form should be completed and submitted electronically via email to John Schinker (schinkerj@bbhcsd.org) prior to the application deadline. One form is required per project proposal. Please see the *Teacher Technology Grant Guidelines* for details. The application deadline is **6:00 PM on Friday, February 15, 2008**. Applications cannot be accepted after the deadline.

Please Note:

This form requires macros to be enabled on your computer. To see if they are, click on the button on the right. You should get a dialog box indicating that the macros are fine. **If you don't see this dialog box after clicking the button**, go up to the menu and click on Tools, Macro, Security, and set the Security Level to LOW. Then, **close this document and re-open it** and test again to make sure it's working. If you do not have macros enabled, you will not be able to complete this application properly.

Test Macros

General Information

Project Title:	Invention Convention - A Global Approach		
Primary Applicant:	Thomas Valenti		
Co-Applicants:	Denise Piechowiak, Mike Battista, Rhoda Erdman		
Project Location:	Brecksville-Broadview Heights Middle School - Room 207		
Affected Students:	Number:	100	Description: Grade 6 - Special Education, Academic/Accelerated Students
Project Summary:	Our goal is to have students create an original and innovative invention. The technology used in this program is the driving inspiration. This project intensely integrates the rigorous curriculum at BBHMS. Each student will use an array of programs to enhance their invention. This technological journey accesses all subject areas and exceeds the level of technology currently presented in sixth grade. The culminating event is called Invention Convention, in which inventions are displayed for potential stock investors.		

Goals & Objectives

Please list the goals of this project:	
	Students will develop an awareness of the role that innovation plays in society's economic growth.
	Students will develop collaborative teamwork skills through various cross-curricular projects.
	Students will enhance communication and share ideas through several technological generated products.
	Students will develop collaborative teamwork skills through various cross-curricular technological projects.
Which Technology Academic Content Standards are met by your project?	
	Grades 6-8: Standard #3 C. Use productivity tools to produce creative works, to prepare publications and to construct technology-enhanced models.
	Grades 6-8: Standard #4

	A. Communicate information technologically and incorporate principles of design into the creation of messages and communication products.
	Grades 6-8: Standard #4 B. Develop, publish and present information in a format that is appropriate for content and audience.
	Grade 6-8: Standard #4 Select appropriate technology communication tools and design collaborative interactive projects and activities to communicate with others.
How will this project improve students' 21 st century skills?	
	<p>The sequencing of Invention Convention centers around some of the main aspects mentioned in the Time Article; collaborate in small groups, enhance communication skills, and become global problem-solvers. This process is not an easy one. Many students are always used to "getting their way," and that is something that takes an entire year to break.</p> <p>They all know that we live in the information age, but many do not know the rules of the web. Cutting and pasting text to create posters or research papers is a common practice. Invention Convention, like many of the projects that we conduct during the year defines and enforces the rules of the web.</p> <p>Having more computers available in my classroom would also allow for students to access information quicker. It will enhance students' opportunities for interactive learning, discussions, and presentations, which is an environment that needs to be stressed every day. This type of environment will allow me to immerse them in technology and help me develop new educational practices and research. This project is not a one shot experience, I will integrate the use of technology into everything I do.</p>

Project Plan	
Please describe the project:	
	<p>Team 6 White has a unique science fair every year, called Invention Convention. Invention Convention is a cross-curricular team project that integrates technology at every level. Every aspect of the program fits directly into our curriculum. Students use Microsoft Office Programs (PowerPoint, Excel, Word, Visio, and Publisher) to create and market an Invention. Students also use a content management system to create websites and Windows MovieMaker to film, edit, and publish television commercials.</p> <p>Overall: Create a tri-board with the various requirements below to display IC night. Technology Math Requirements: audits, balancing the books, budgeting, investments Technology Science Requirements: website, commercials, PowerPoint slides Technology Social Studies Requirements: timelines, famous scientist report Technology Language Arts Requirements: invitations, thank you letters, tri-fold pamphlets *These are just some examples - go to mrvalenti.org for work samples under the *IC* link.</p> <p>The final project is displayed for potential investors when the student becomes an entrepreneur selling his or her invention. Last year we had real-time voting. We projected the results and this created a competitive environment which resembles a true trade show. At the end of Invention Convention, each student creates a how to guide for the students coming into the program. They give the students pointers on what to do during the process. The guides are awesome! Each</p>

student pays special attention to detail. The engagement of this program is contagious! Each year the project improves because of the continuous engagement by the students. Added technology would further develop this project.

The staff members on Team 6 White are well versed in technology. Our team website, located at www.bbhms.com has had over 42,000 hits this year! At any given time throughout the year, you will find Team 6 White utilizing data projectors, SmartBoards, Unitedstreaming and outstanding educational websites to enhance instruction. We would like to expand cross-curricular more throughout the year. The only thing holding us back is the lack of technology. Currently our mobile lab is close to being obsolete. The operating system is 9 years old, and many of them can barely hold a charge. I currently conduct various team projects throughout the year that request technology. Some examples are listed below:

1st Annual Energy Convention (2/26/08) - "Educating the Community One Member at a Time" I have also submitted a grant to Dominion for this project.

Podcasts/Student Resources - I have over 100 files that can be accessed by my students. I have everything from student video to sample lessons.

Photos - I have over one-thousand pictures documenting the educational journey my students make every year.

All of the information above can be found at www.mrvalenti.org.

Budget

Please select the quantity and descriptions of items required. Refer to the hardware menu for prices and details on allowable items.

Quantity	Description	Unit Cost	Extended Cost
5	Laptop Computer	1400.00	7000.00
0		0.00	0.00
0		0.00	0.00
0		0.00	0.00
0		0.00	0.00
0		0.00	0.00
0		0.00	0.00
0		0.00	0.00
0		0.00	0.00
0		0.00	0.00
0		0.00	0.00
0		0.00	0.00
TOTAL:			7000.00

Please provide any necessary notes or comments on the items listed above.

We chose laptops because of the mobility and the lack of space in our classrooms. With 25 - 30 students, laptops consume less space, which in turn will allow us to use them in all of our classes. The requested equipment above will be used in combination with three laptops connected wirelessly, along with three desktops. The students also have these technological devices available for use during this project and school year: scanner, digital camera (2), color laser printer, mp3 recorder (podcasts), memory sticks (4), and a digital video camera (videos).

Please describe other sources of funding, and how that money will be used.	
	This project has grown every year since the first Invention Convention at BBHMS in 2003. I have received funds from Best Buy, McGinty Foundation, Martha Holden Jennings (2), and The Schools foundation for projects that I conduct throughout the school year. I will continue to pursue money from any organization that would like to contribute to the various technological projects conducted throughout my tenure at Brecksville-Broadview Heights Middle School.
How will the project be sustained beyond the first year without additional technology funding?	
	We currently raise money a few different ways for Invention Convention. We sell food items at the concession stand to pay for awards, Invention Convention lanyards, and consumable items. This year we are going to ask Dip-N-Dots to help us raise money. We also sell a Flipbook CD of Invention Convention. These CD's contain a LightScribe image of the winners of Invention Convention. We raise around \$300.00 every year from the sale of the CD's. We are also having an Energy Convention this year which will also help contribute to the financial burden that this project creates. Overall, we raise around \$600.00 annually.

Project Evaluation	
Please describe how you will measure the success of your project in meeting the goals outlined above:	
	<p>Each teacher is required to assess his or her students in each subject area. To accomplish this assessment, students are provided with rubrics detailing success with required objectives. A daily chart is also kept to monitor student progress. We also meet two times a week to address the specific needs of each group. This allows us to give guidance to each individual group throughout the entire project.</p> <p>Students also evaluate themselves daily, during and after each assignment. This type of self assessment is for continuous improvement. This is something sixth graders take very seriously. It counts for points, and they know it!</p> <p>Parents are also asked to fill out an evaluation of the entire process (i.e. Invention Convention). We have made many of the changes that have been selected over the last six years. I am going to use Moodle this year to conduct an online survey. I have the ability to send out a newsletter via my team website.</p> <p>I know this project focuses on grades, but the overall teamwork, leadership, problem-solving, and some of the struggles make each individual a better one! Traditionally, the special education/average student is more successful in this project. They finally have the ability to show what they know and lead the group! In sixth grade, we have the important task of getting them ready for seventh grade and beyond. This project develops relationships and skills that will carry them through their middle school years.</p>

Procedural Assurances	
Please check the boxes next to each of the following statements to indicate your acceptance to the terms and conditions of this project:	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Purchased equipment belongs to the school district, and may be removed or reassigned if the awardee fails to follow the procedures of the grant.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Projects that target a particular school, grade, or subject may stay with the target population if

	the applicant's teaching assignment changes in subsequent years.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	All purchases related to the grant will be made directly by the district. Funds will not be dispersed to awardees.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Grant decisions will be made by the district technology team whose decision will be final. The technology team may enlist the help of media specialists and administrators in first-round evaluations of grant proposals.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Grant awardees may be asked to make presentations about their project at staff meetings, inservice opportunities, or conferences.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	An evaluation of the project, following the evaluation procedure outlined in the grant proposal, must be completed and submitted by May 31, 2009. Grant awardees will receive the procedure for completing this requirement.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Proposals will not be funded without the support of the building principal.