

Grant-To-Educators Proposal for Voice Thread and Video Cameras

Cassandra Bozikis

The University of Akron

Martha Holden Jennings Foundation Grant-To-Educators Application

Date June 14, 2011 Amount \$540.11 (maximum \$3,000)

Project Title Science Exploration with Technology Integration

The project corresponds to the following Foundation grant category (**check one**) which are in priority order:

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| 1. Improving learning in math, science and Technology <u>X</u> | 4. Supporting the development of teachers _____ |
| 2. Improving language literacy _____ | 5. Strengthening teachers' and administrators' leadership skills _____ |
| 3. Improving learning in the arts _____ | 6. Providing other services to students _____ |

Grant use (check one) Classroom(s) X School-wide _____ District-wide _____

Name (Miss/Ms./Mrs./Mr./Dr.) Miss Cassandra Bozikis

District's County Wayne

Position Grade level(s) Subject(s) 5th grade math and science teacher

School Wayne Elementary School District Wooster City Schools

School address 1700 East Smithville Western – Wooster, Ohio 44691

Home address 4465 Burbank Rd – Wooster, Ohio 44691

School phone no. & area code (330)345-6474 Home phone no. & area code (440)-842-9972

Education: Degrees

Institution	School /Dept.	Degree	Year Received	Major Subject
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Kent State University – Department of Education – Bachelor's of Science in Education – 2008 – Middle Childhood Education (Math and Science)

Years of experience: from August 2009 to May 2011

Other pertinent experience _____

Applicant's Signature: Cassandra L. Bozikis

Email address: clb137@zips.uakron.edu

DETAILS OF THE PROPOSAL — Your request must provide the following information within a maximum of four additional typed pages.

Please respond in the sequence below using the headings that are listed.

1. **Description** - Provide a concise paragraph description of the proposed project, including the data/evidence that led you to identify the needed improvement as a goal.

2. **Timeline** - Specify the dates your project will begin and end and also the number of students/educators involved in the project.

3. **Qualifications** - What are your special qualifications for carrying out this project? Grade level(s) taught?

4. **Effectiveness** - How are you seeking to increase your teaching effectiveness or administrative/leadership effectiveness in one or more of the

Martha Holden Jennings Foundation thematic categories? (listed above)

5. **Objectives and Plan of Action** - What are your specific objectives and plan of action for increasing student achievement, enhancing student development, or strengthening leadership skills?

6. **Assessment** - How will you assess the results of your efforts? Specifically, what measures will you use to provide evidence of the extent to

which the strategies you employed had an impact on student performance?

7. **Sustainability** - How will you sustain the effective practices after the funding period ends?

8. **Dissemination** - How will you share the results of your project with colleagues?

9. **Alignment** - State how this project fits into the total school or district-wide curriculum or improvement plan.

10. **Budget** - See Grant-to-Educators cover sheet guidelines for budget items that are not a priority. Provide a detailed itemized budget needed to

implement the project. Specifically,

- Materials not normally supplied by school funds. List items, including titles of books and costs of materials. Please do not request

standard school supplies such as construction paper, scissors, glue, etc.

- Equipment. Note: requests for equipment must directly reflect the project purposes for students and/or educators and must not be

fundable by district resources. See "About the Foundation".

- Total cost of the proposed project, including any other funds supporting the project.

11. **Endorsement** - The Superintendent of Schools **MU ST** complete the endorsement section prior to consideration of the proposal by the

Foundation. Evidence of district in-kind and financial support are critical factors in assessing proposals.

Martha Holden Jennings Foundation Grant-To-Educators Proposal
Science Exploration with Technology Integration

DETAILS OF THE PROPOSAL

Description

As the 2010-2011 school year came to an end, I realized the lack of technology integration in my science classes and the need to help students improve their abilities to explain and communicate the results of scientific investigations using direct evidence and observations. As a fifth grade science teacher at Wayne Elementary, I would like to propose a project in which my students would use Panasonic HM-TA1 Video Cameras to capture their science investigations in action and then use the video clips to draw conclusions and report their results to other students in the classroom and around the world using a secure collaborative network called Ed. Voice Thread. Picture students using these video cameras in the classroom to document each step of the Scientific Method they are using as they investigate and explore a scientific problem or question. The students would be seamlessly using technology during their science experiments and investigations to collect data and interpret their observations. They would then use Ed. Voice Thread to organize their information and explain to others the steps they took that led them to their conclusion using a mixture of voice recordings, video clips, and written text to share this information on the network. Since Ed. Voice Thread is a secure network for students and educators, my students would be able to share their experiments with their classmates and other students from around the world. They would be allowed to comment on their peer's projects and discuss important aspects of their experiments. Ed. Voice Thread also allows students to see what other classrooms are engaging in around the world and collaborate with them. I truly believe that this will be a great project that supports 21st century skills, academic content standards, global awareness, innovative technology integration, and student academic achievement.

Timeline

This would be an ongoing project throughout the 2011-2012 school year which starts on August 22, 2011 and ends on May 25, 2012. One teacher and 45 students would be involved in this project. Students would use the Video Cameras and Ed. Voice Thread network to collect, interpret, and report the results of the experiments they conduct in class throughout the year. It would become a seamless part of the Scientific Method.

Qualifications

I have been a full-time fifth grade math and science teacher at Wayne Elementary School for the past two years and am fully aware of the Scientific Inquiry Ohio Academic Content Standards students must be competent in by the end of the school year. I am also currently working on my Master's Degree in Instructional Technology at The University of Akron in which I was introduced to Voice Thread and feel completely confident in my abilities to use it in my classroom with no additional professional development or support.

Effectiveness

I am hoping to increase my teaching effectiveness by creating a classroom environment that supports the Ohio Science Academic Content Standards through technology integration. I believe this project will inspire collaborative student learning and creativity through digital-age learning experiences.

Objectives and Plan of Action:

The objective of this project is for students to fully understand the steps of the Scientific Method (1. State the problem, 2. Formulate the hypothesis, 3. Make observations, 4. Design the experiment, 5. Collect/Interpret data, 6. Draw conclusions, 7. Report Results) using 21st Century Skills and innovative technology tools. If my classroom was given access to five Panasonic HM-TA1 Video Cameras, students could work collaboratively in small groups to investigate and document challenging scientific problems that require a lot of critical thinking and team communication. The students could then work independently or in pairs to draw conclusions and report their results using Ed. Voice Thread. Our school currently has a mobile lab with a classroom set of MacBook computers in which students can access Ed. Voice Thread. Students would only need the video cameras and the purchase of a class subscription to Ed. Voice Thread to enhance their learning experiences. The ability to visually document their observations using a camera will support the visual needs of many students which will potentially increase their academic achievement. Students' Ed. Voice Thread projects will allow them to report their results in a creative and innovative manner.

Assessment

To assess the results of this project I will evaluate the Ed. Voice Thread projects that the students create to determine whether or not they understand the order and importance of the Scientific Method. Scores that students receive on their unit tests will also provide

documentation that the way they learned the material helped them to fully understand the content standards in which they are being tested on. Lastly I would like to give my students a survey in which they can explain with detail why they believe the video camera and Ed. Voice Thread did or did not help them achieve academic success in science.

Sustainability

Once the funding from the Martha Holden Jennings Foundation would end, I would still have access to the Panasonic HM-TA1 Video Cameras for student use, I would only have to pay \$60 for a class subscription to Ed. Voice Thread to sustain this effective practice. In planning to sustain this project, students may be charged an additional \$1.35 to their student fees which would go toward the subscription to Ed. Voice Thread.

Dissemination

I would share the results of this project with my colleagues during one of our monthly staff meetings as a way to help them with ideas on how to integrate technology into their classrooms while supporting 21st Century Skills. I would be more than willing to share the cameras and support my colleagues in planning and using Ed. Voice Thread in their classrooms.

Alignment

The content being taught directly reflects the district's fifth grade science curriculum goals and supports the district's improvement plan on improving academic achievement of all students by expanding the use of technology as an efficient means to make data-driven decisions.

Budget

Total cost: \$540.11

-Ed. Voice Thread: \$60

-Five Panasonic HM-TA1 Video Cameras: \$480.11

Fortunately and unfortunately all the school's technology funding is going towards SMART boards, mounting systems, or mobile lab purchases. No money is currently available to fund the implementation of this project. Although the purchasing of technology equipment is not a priority for the foundation, I would please like you to consider the in-depth learning and creativity that would take place in my science classroom if my students had a few video cameras to use with a subscription to Ed. Voice Thread. No other program we have allows students to organize their thoughts, capture their experiments in action, and report their results into a common area that can be share with schools around the world. One class subscription to Ed.

Voice Thread for one year costs a total of \$60 for one teacher and 100 student accounts. Please feel free to visit the Ed. Voice Thread subscription page for more information if need at <http://voicethread.com/products/k12/educator/>.

Panasonic HM-TA1 Video Cameras are originally \$169.95 but can be purchased through the online Apple Store for \$89.95 each. In order for students to work in small groups I would need a total of five video cameras. Therefore, five cameras times \$89.95 equals a total cost of \$449.75 for all five cameras (saving \$400 from the original price). The estimated tax on \$449.75 is \$30.36 giving a grand total of \$480.11 for the purchasing of the cameras. Shipping and handling is free. Again, if more information is needed please feel free to visit the Apple Store online at <http://store.apple.com/us/product/H3101VC/A?fnode=MTY1NDA5NQ&mco=MTk5MTY2Nzk>

Superintendent Endorsement

Not required at this time for Grad School Project.

Thank you for all of your support and commitment to improving students' educational opportunities. On behalf of my future students and myself, I would like to thank you for your time and consideration to fund this creative and innovative science project that will be used to help promote student achievement.