



# GRANT APPLICATION COVER SHEET

Sheridan School District 48J

1. Project Title: CLASS Project Round 10 Pilot Program

2. Project Director(s): A.J. Graver Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Funding Agency: CHALKBOARD Project New  Renewal

4. Submission Due Date: April 27\* Postmark  Receipt

5. Submission Address: DAN TAMISON

221 NW 2nd Ave. Suite 203  
Portland, OR 97209


6. Project Operation Dates: August 2012 - June 2013

7. Requested Amount: \$30,000 District Match Amount (if any): in kind

8. Project Description (for public communications): \_\_\_\_\_

See Attached steps

9. Signatures:

a) Project Director:  Date: 4-11-12

b) Supervisor (of Director): \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Board Situation/Resolution Required for April Board Meeting

**NOTE: Submit all copies and complete ORIGINAL grant application with signatures 9a) and 9b) to the District Business Office at least one week prior to the grant submission due date. Additional time may be necessary if school board signatures are required.**

SIGNED COPY DISTRIBUTION: Business Office, Supervisor of applicant, Applicant

## Project Overview

### **CLASS (Creative Leadership Achieves Student Success) Project**

Research clearly indicates that classroom teachers influence student achievement more than any other school variable. CLASS is an educational improvement movement that empowers Oregon educators to lead the way to higher student achievement. It aims to transform the teaching profession with better career paths, performance evaluations, professional development and pay—all defined by teachers themselves.

**The Chalkboard Project is pleased to announce a new round of planning grants to support up to three new school districts, or several districts collaborating together, to take part in our expanding CLASS Project. Grant monies will be awarded for designing expanded career paths, targeted professional development, performance evaluation, and new compensation models for educators who are committed to raising student achievement.**

The Chalkboard Project is an independent, non-profit organization working to improve Oregon's K-12 public schools. Chalkboard aims to help create a more informed and engaged public that understands and addresses the tough choices and trade-offs required to build strong schools. We assist local school districts in developing improvement programs that can scale statewide. We also work towards improved school accountability and funding.

Since March 2007, Chalkboard has funded CLASS pilot projects in seventeen districts, an ESD consortium, and one alternative school. Indicators of success are very encouraging, showing increased student achievement, higher rates of recruitment and retention of effective teachers, and new career paths for all teachers.

Chalkboard wants Oregon's schools to be among the best in the nation. We think the most effective way to achieve that goal is to pursue collaborative teacher effectiveness strategies like CLASS. Our hope is that every school district in Oregon that wants to do this work has an avenue of funding and coaching available to them to do so. To that end, we are seeking all relevant funding sources - private, federal and state - to create broad based opportunity for school leaders.

For more information on the CLASS Project, please visit <http://cbclassproject.org>

**We invite Oregon school districts to apply for selection as our next CLASS pilot programs. Chosen applicants will be granted up to \$30,000 each to fund design and planning phases of the CLASS Project.**

## Overview of Phase 1 Work – Planning & Design (August 2012 – June 2013)

Designing the CLASS Project pilot is phase one, and will consist of seven steps that will be carried out by the pilot districts in partnership with Chalkboard:

1. Lay groundwork for the project by reviewing best practices in educator career enhancement and compensation.
2. Establish a strategy for educator career enhancement and compensation including measurable objectives for all design and program elements.
3. Confirm that current teacher pay levels are within competitive compensation range of other local districts.
4. Conduct a gap analysis to see where current district professional development and compensation practices fall short in light of the strategy developed in step 2. The result will be a compelling business case for making change.
5. Explore and study multiple measures of student achievement including value-added measures to help inform performance evaluation.
6. Develop detailed blueprints for: 1) new advancement career paths, 2) professional development, 3) performance evaluation, and 4) differentiated compensation programs. These four blueprints will detail what new programs will include.
7. Develop the recommendations for change required by the new career enhancement and compensation strategies.
8. Prepare for piloting the new career enhancement and compensation programs.