

Please review your proposal information. If you are not ready to submit your proposal at this time, click the "Save Only" button. The proposal will then be available to edit from the Welcome page. Clicking the Submit button will immediately send the application to Verizon Foundation and you will then be unable to perform further editing.

*** First Name** Jennifer
Middle Name
*** Last Name** Pederson
*** Title** STEM Coordinator
Contact Type Employee

* Telephone 218-336-8860 ext 2498

* **Address** 1027 N 8th Ave E

* City DULUTH

* **State** Minnesota

* ZIP / Postal Code 55805 1739

Province / Country United States

* **Organization Legal Name** Myers-Wilkins Elementary

Organization AKA Name

* Are you applying on behalf of another organization? No

* **Organization Mailing Address** 1027 N 8th Ave E

* Organization Mailing City DULUTH

* Organization Mailing State Minnesota

* Organization Mailing ZIP / Postal code 55805 1739

* Organization Mailing Province / Country United States

* **Organization E-mail Address** jennifer.pederson@isd709.org

* Organization Telephone 218-336-8860

Organization Website Address <http://myers-wilkins-elementary.isd709.org/>

*** Organization Mission** Myers-Wilkins (MW) is a K-5 community elementary school providing 21st Century classrooms and facilities, an experienced teaching staff, and excellent educational programs. The school community promotes high achievement and provides a welcoming environment for everyone. The MW school community is located in the Hillside Neighborhood of Duluth, MN. The target population includes 444 students and an estimated 1300 additional family members. This population includes families/individuals who are low to very low income, working, people of color, homeless, formerly incarcerated, and unemployed. Approximately 100 children at MW are homeless (24%). The transient rate of families moving in and out is 67%. Additionally we are the center for Deaf and Hard of Hearing students for the entire region, and 24% of our students are identified special education. With a rate of 83% receiving free lunch, Myers-Wilkins is classified as a building wide Title One school.

On April 26, 2005, Myers-Wilkins (formerly known as Nettleton Elementary) was declared a racially isolated school under the Minnesota Desegregation Rules and was required to engage the community to develop integration strategies that reduce racial isolation. In 2014 we began the three year journey towards becoming a STEM school.

Myers-Wilkins serves a large population who are underrepresented in the fields of science

and technology. Our mission is to provide the educational and hands-on opportunities our students need in order to discover the many options available in science, technology, engineering and math. STEM is for ALL students. This principle is one of equity and excellence. Excellence in STEM equates to the ideal that all students can understand the aspects of STEM if they are given the opportunity. These opportunities must be in the form of multiple experiences over several years.

* **Scope of Organization** Local

Proposal Information

* **Program Title** Making STEM Accessible to All

* **Request Date** 10/26/2015

* **Request Amount** \$20,000.00

* **Program Start Date** 01/01/2016

* **Program End Date** 12/31/2016

* **Which Social Cause will this request address?** Education

Which Education program would you like to apply for? Verizon Innovative Learning Award

Approach Information

* **Executive Summary** Myers-Wilkins Elementary is a K-5 elementary school in Duluth, MN. We are in our second year of a three year integration plan to become a STEM school. Our vision is to expose ALL students to STEM principles (the scientific process, an engineering design process, critical thinking skills, encouraging creativity and innovation, integrated math throughout the activities, etc), and possible secondary education and career paths. We began our process by taking the district's science curriculum (FOSS) and integrating engineering design challenges that support the science and concepts addressed in the Minnesota Science Standards. Some of the design challenges came from the Engineering is Elementary (EiE) curriculum put out by the Boston Museum of Science, and others are various engineering activities that support the science concepts. As part of the integration plan, each grade level will implement one new STEM unit each year.

This grant would help us continue our mission to make STEM accessible to all by funding additional professional development for science and engineering, provide additional resources to make STEM hands on for our students, and to continue to incorporate STEM activities and education as part of our after-school programs at Myers-Wilkins Elementary. As part of our STEM units we would like to incorporate Picture Perfect Science lessons which integrate fiction and nonfiction trade books to help teach the science concepts along with hands-on activities. We would also like to expand our portable engineering carts to include mini maker spaces to encourage creativity and innovation. Additional professional development from Engineering is Elementary (EiE) and Picture Perfect science, including sending teams of teachers to train the trainer workshops to encourage sustainability at Myers-Wilkins Elementary is part of our vision for this STEM for ALL grant.

What approaches will you use to communicate Verizon's brand and our role as your partner in this work?

Myers-Wilkins has a successful partnership with the television stations and other media outlets in Duluth. When we send a press release at least one station or the newspaper comes 90% of the time. On our school website we have a tab where we share information about our STEM program. Our media center and after school program use facebook to share things, including science/STEM information with the community. Every classroom teacher and the principal has a weekly newsletter that goes home every Wednesday. The school newsletter is also placed on the website each week, as well as, listing all of the in school and after school activities for students and families. Whenever we have events or family events all the sponsors are listed on flyers that go home, posters that are around our school, and the neighborhood. The events at Myers-Wilkins are also included in our bi weekly district newsletter that is e-mailed to all staff and families in the district.

Targeted Population

Indicate the makeup of the targeted population for the program.

* **Estimated ethnicity to be served by this project** 23% American Indian/Alaska Native
1% Asian

30% Black/African American
46% White/Caucasian

Estimated age(s) to be served by this project 85% 0-18 Years Old
15% 19-54 Years Old

*** Estimated gender to be served by this project** 50% Females
50% Males

Estimated income to be served by this project 83% Very Low Income (<50% of Area Median Family Income)
15% Average Income (80%-120% of Area Median Family Income)
2% High Income (>120% of Area Median Family Income)

Estimated location to be served by this project 5% Suburban
95% Urban

Are participants for this education project part of an underserved community? Yes

Underserved Education Community Metrics Based on Income 100

Underserved Education Community Metrics Based on Geography 100

Underserved Education Community Metrics Explanation 83% of families fall into "Very Low Income", and approximately 100 children at MW are homeless (24%); the transient rate of families moving in and out is 67%. We are also the center for Deaf and Hard of Hearing students for the entire region, and 24% of our students are identified special education. Students are from urban community. We believe these metrics demonstrate the need for help in our school.

What percentage of the children in your school qualify for free and reduced lunch? 83

Explain your percentages for free and reduced lunch With a rate of 83% receiving free lunch, Myers-Wilkins is classified as a building wide Title One school.

What is the estimated education level to be served by this project? 100% K-12 Students

Note that a requirement of this grant is to complete the metrics section below and participate in the post grant Impact Report process so that actual results can be measured. Please make a note of the Target Values that you enter because you will be asked to provide periodic updates on your progress towards these goals in the form of an Impact Report. Once requested, you will be required to return your responses 10 days after you receive the report. If you do not agree to participate in the Impact Report process, please do not proceed with the submission of your grant.

Metrics	
Number of participants/attendees	455
Engineering Survey	By the end of the 2017 school year, 80% of our students will score proficient on the engineering survey.
Professional Development	By the end of the 2016-2017 school year, 80% of certified staff will participate in at least one professional development training opportunity.
Science MCA	By the end of the 2017 school year, 55% of our 5th grade students will score proficient on the science MCA test.

Describe how you are collecting data you will report to Verizon. During each unit teachers will use regular common formative assessments to inform instruction. This data will be analyzed during STEM PLC's to modify instruction. Science journals will be used throughout the unit and will be assessed using a rubric developed in cooperation with classroom teachers, district science coordinator and the Myers-Wilkins STEM coordinator. At the end of the unit all students will take a summative test with the expectation that all students will pass with 80% or better. Those who score less than 80%

will be given interventions and retested to ensure that the min of 80% is reached.

A minimum of 3 evening science family events will be held which will highlight science units that students have worked on. Included in the family nights will be presentations and activities done by community partners. After each STEM family night the data from surveys will be analyzed and changes will be made before the next event to reach the goal of 90% approval rating.

The school science goal that we are striving to meet is that the percentage of 5th grade students who score proficient on the science MCA assessment will increase from 45% proficiency in the 2014-15 school year to 50% on the 2015-16 school year and 60% in 2016-17 school year. The Minnesota comprehension test in science is only administered to the 5th grade students.

Included in the participant/attendee total are the certification of 30 teachers on staff.

Please upload surveys and spreadsheets if available.

Technology

Does the program utilize mobile technologies? No

Additional Information

Additional Information See attached worksheet for budget details and breakdown for the Verizon Innovative Learning Award funding.

The other attachment contains additional statistics of the Hillside Neighborhood in Duluth, MN where Myers-Wilkins Elementary School is located.

Additional Information Upload

- [Statistics for Hillside Neighborhood.docx \(20.55 K\)](#), uploaded by Jennifer Pederson on 11/04/2015
- [Myers Wilkins Copy of Verizon Grant- Budget.xlsx \(12.77 K\)](#), uploaded by Jennifer Pederson on 11/02/2015

Reporting Contact Information

* Reporting Contact Full Name Jennifer Pederson

* Reporting Contact Email Address jennifer.pederson@isd709.org

* Reporting Contact Telephone 218-336-8860 ext 2498

[Financial Information](#)

Verizon Foundation Project Funding

Please take this space to breakdown the details of the direct and indirect costs associated with the project. For further clarification on what each cost type means, please click on the information icon (i).

Your IT Hardware and IT Software total should be less than 20% of the total of the Verizon Foundation Support or please be prepared to explain the overrun in the box below.

* Direct Costs	* Explanation	* Indirect Costs	* Explanation	Total Costs
Employee Salaries & Benefits:	2520	Stipends for staff for EIE t		
Consultants:	2550	Consultants for Family Niç		

Materials & Supplies:	6430	Picture Perfect Science Te			
Marketing/Advertising/PR:					
Printing/Publications:					
IT Hardware:	2600	Sphero 2.0 Programmable			
IT Software:					
Travel:	2500	Professional Development			
Training/Professional Development:	3400	Teach Education Institute,			
Other:					
Total:	20000	100.00%		0.00%	

Organization Certifications

- * Does Verizon or any of its employees or directors exercise control or influence over your Organization? No
- * Do you have any branch offices, operations, or representation in U.S. sanctioned countries or any relationship, including but not limited to financial, with any entity or individual designated by the U.S. as a prohibited party or Specially Designated National? No
- * Do any members of your Board, staff or organization have any indictments, convictions or conflicts of interest? No
- * Does your organization have less than three board members? No
- * Does your organization have at least one separate financial or accounting person or function? Yes
- * Does your organization have "conflict of interest" policy and procedures? Yes
- * I certify to the following grant agreement clauses. I certify
- * I certify that this organization complies with all applicable laws, including those relating to tax-exempt status, charitable registration and reporting, and anti-discrimination laws. I certify