

June 24, 2009

To: Dr. Braswell  
Fr: Ron Arrington  
Re: Recommendations

I am requesting Board approval for making grant application for one-time funding from Head Start. I have received information this week from the Region VI Head Start office in Dallas, Tx that these funds have become available. The Dallas office is requesting board involvement along with the board president signing off on this grant.

I am recommending that we make application in the amount of \$547,096 for the items listed below in order of priority for the Head Start program housed at Ann Windle.

1. Renovation to expand size of library and parent training room and adding magnetic door locks for added security measures \$459,001

Rationale:

*More space is needed to accommodate students and additional books in our undersized library. Also, more space is needed in the parent training room used for training classes during the school day, such as ESL, nutrition, working with your child, etc. This space also accommodates our parent volunteers. (Over the past three years we've had over 70,000 volunteer hours each year at our school.) I have received written cost estimates from Rod Reeves, who acquired these through architects working with the district. Expanding the current library space would increase instructional opportunities by allowing teachers and outside presenters such as the Denton Public Library to conduct circle time activities related to literacy in a setting similar to an elementary school. Thus, children would be further prepared for transition to an elementary campus.*

2. Playground equipment \$41,549

Rationale:

*Playground equipment in some of our outside play centers is beginning to show signs of needed replacement. These requested funds would add a new area to our playground so that we could later remove any equipment as it becomes obsolete. This will allow us to begin a replacement cycle to ensure that we maintain a safe environment on our playground. Replacement of outside play equipment would foster continued implementation of the gross motor skills component of the Head Start state & district prekindergarten curriculum.*

3. Scholastic state-adopted PreK Curriculum (\$2,100 x 6) \$12,600

Rationale:

*Some of our curriculum materials which the teachers and teacher aides are using are outdated and/or need to be replaced because of missing parts to the manipulatives contained in the kits. These materials support implementation of the state and*

*Head Start as well as local curriculum objectives.*

4. Growing with Mathematics Curriculum (\$1,638 x 6) \$9,828

Rationale:

*Same as number 3.*

5. Computers (\$1,121 x 18) \$20,183

Rationale:

*Each of our twelve Head Start classrooms has 4 computers and some of these computers are 6 -7 years old. These computers are used to enhance classroom instruction. These requested funds would allow replacement for some of these computers.*

6. Tricycles (\$245.50 x 10) \$2,455

Rationale:

*We currently have approximately 17-18 tricycles used to address gross motor Skill development, an area in the state's prekindergarten curriculum. We not only need more tricycles for the 193 students we have in the Head Start program, but also need to replace some of our current tricycles which are basically worn out and are becoming unsafe for children.*

7. Library books (\$18 x 30 x 12) \$6,480

Rationale:

*Replacement library books are needed not only for classroom use, but also for the books which teachers send home with the parents to read to the children and return to schools. The No Child Left Behind Act placed strong emphasis on the development of literacy skills. Early exposure to books is a critical element of this process. Through normal wear and tear, many of the current books in our existing library need replacement.*

Total requested \$547,096

More than likely we will not obtain funding for all these requested items; however, I estimate a 90-100% probability that some will be funded. This would be based on how much the Regional Head Start office in Dallas is allocating to each Head Start program in the five state area. I cannot find out this amount from them, but they did indicate there was no grant ceiling.

I have already begun work on the grant, however the Dallas office is requesting board approval before Dr. Alexander signs off on the grant application. The grant application deadline is July 17<sup>th</sup>, but I am targeting submitting it by certified mail on July 1.

Thank you for your continued support.