St. Helena Unified School District

Innovative Learning Environment Projects (ILEP)

Pilot Program, Year II: 2018-19

Background: On December 8, 2016, the Board approved an "Innovative Learning Environments (ILEP)" project budget of $300,000 for a two-year pilot program, providing district-level funding to promote flexible, learning-centered spaces that support personalized learning and student choice, in alignment with the District's Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP).

Definition of "Innovative:" Something new and different which promotes student learning in a way that is relevant, realistic, inspiring and engaging.   "Learning environment" in this context can refer not only the physical space or place, but to structures, tools and communities as well.

Allowable Expenses: One-time purchases that are designed to support innovative instructional practices.   Examples include collaborative/flexible furniture, technology tools, equipment, devices or other room modifications, and/or professional development. Examples of learning environment innovation from Pilot Year I include flexible seating, varied-height student tables, whiteboard surfaces on walls and tables, and 3-D printers, and virtual reality equipment. Examples of expenses that are not considered to be innovative include replications or add-ons to current equipment or projects (e.g. additional Chromebooks) more storage units, or stand-alone field trips.

Innovation Exploration: A small budget is available to provide release time for teachers/staff who wish to explore ideas for innovative learning environment projects, e.g. through school visits. Principals can contact the CBO, Andi Stubbs, for more information (967-2704).

Funding Amounts: The total amount available for all projects combined is $125,000 in Year II of the pilot program, but there is no specific minimum or maximum funding amount per project. Each application will be evaluated based on overall project cost-to-value, in conjunction with other criteria (see "Approval Criteria" below).

Project Application: Each school site is invited to apply by submitting the attached Innovative Learning Environment Projects (ILEP) Application form.   Each school site can apply for more than one project, but a separate application is required for each project.   For the 2018-2019 school year, application forms are due to Andi Stubbs in the District Office by: **Friday, March 2, 2018.**

Approval Process: ILEP program applications will be reviewed by the Superintendent's Subcommittee on Curriculum, Technology and Innovation on **March 13, 2018,** and recommended for approval by the Board of Trustees during the **April 12, 2018** Board meeting. Sites will be notified of approval status on **April 13, 2018.**

"The modern world demands learning environments that embrace the wide world of people, places and ideas, and are flexible in their arrangement of space, time, technology and people." Partnership for 21st Century Skills – 21st Century Learning Environments

Approval Criteria: Project applications will be reviewed and recommended for approval based on the following criteria:

_____ Project implementation supports innovative instructional practices (as defined above).

_____ The project also supports the school's specific LCAP goals.

_____ Project implementation will benefit at least one classroom, grade level or targeted academic group.

_____ Based on the applicant's responses to the "why" prompts, this project:
   _____ Helps to solve a problem.
   _____ Promotes a flexible teaching/learning environment that helps to eliminate the "front of the room."
   _____ Supports instruction.
   _____ Supports personalized learning/student choice.

_____ At least one research study citing the benefits of the item has been referenced.

_____ The project will provide good value for the cost.

_____ A funding source is identified for any ongoing costs associated with project Implementation.

_____ The project application has been approved by the required site stakeholder groups, and by the site Principal.

Timeline:

March 2, 2018	Applications due to Andi Stubbs, CBO
March 13, 2018	Superintendent's Subcommittee meets to review/approve 2018-19 (Year II) ILEP Program Applications
April 12, 2018	Board reviews/approves the Subcommittee's recommendations
April 13, 2018	Sites are notified of approval status
April 16, 2018-ongoing	Site/district administration work on project implementation (purchasing, etc.)
2018-2019 School Year	Review of ILEP Program results; development of extended "Future Ready Classrooms" program

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