

Kimberly School District Funding Request Form

Purpose: The Kimberly School District Board of Trustees has made funds available to support student travel, curricular needs, innovative projects, and other initiatives aimed at enhancing the academic experience for our students. To be considered for these funds, please complete this form and submit it to the District Office at least 10 business days prior to the regularly scheduled board meeting.

Section 1: Applicant Information

• Name: Christopher Ahlm
• School/Department: KHS / Library
• Phone Number: 208-423-4170 Ext 3101

Section 2: Purpose and Objectives

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Brief Description of the Project/Initiative: <i>(Provide a concise overview of what you are planning to do)</i> <p>In the Spring of 2024, the English Department and Administration discussed the value of using Accelerated Reader testing at the High School. After looking into the research about its efficacy, as well as consulting with the English teachers about alternative methods to assess reading, we agreed that canceling our AR membership and reallocating the funds towards reading incentive programs would be a better motivator for students. With the funds no longer available, we seek approximately \$4000.00 to fund student reading initiatives.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Goals and Objectives: <i>(Describe the specific goals and objectives of the project/initiative and how they align with the district's mission and support student learning)</i> <p>If fully funded, we will provide incentive programs quarterly to students in the following model:</p> <p>1st and 3rd quarters: English teachers will get to choose their top book presentations/reports/videos/summaries, 1 per each class. This allows students to receive reading recognition within their classes for good presentations.</p> <p>2nd and 4th quarters, students who submit to the librarian book summaries exceeding the 1 required in their English classes, via the librarians website, enter their name into a lottery per submission that will be drawn at the end of the semesters at a student lunch incentive for avid readers.</p>

Section 3: Funding Details

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Total Amount of Funds Requested: \$4000.00
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Current/Future Funds: <i>(What funds are currently available for this project and describe future fund-raising plans)</i> Currently the only funds potentially available would come from the cost savings from no longer paying for AR licenses. It was estimated in May 2024 that cancelling our AR usage would save approximately \$4697.00, and it had been our hope that the money saved could be reallocated for our incentive programs. Our hope is that this can be a continually funded incentive program in future years.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Estimated cost for students: <i>(What is the estimated "out of pocket" cost per student)</i> \$0.00
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Budget Breakdown: <i>(Provide a detailed budget, including specific items, quantities, and costs)</i> Total expected costs: \$4000.00 Quarterly Disbursements: \$1000.00 x 4 quarters Quarter 1: 26 blocks of English, Aprx- \$39 per teacher per block Quarter 2: \$200 for incentive lunch costs and \$800 for raffle drawing prizes Quarter 3: 25 blocks of English, Aprx- \$41 per teacher per block Quarter 4: \$200 for incentive lunch costs and \$800 for raffle drawing prizes

Section 4: Impact and Outcomes

- **Target Audience:** *(Specify who will benefit from this project/initiative, such as specific student groups, grade levels, number of students etc.)*

By creating programs that occur both inside the classroom and in the library, it reinforces the value of reading in both venues. Students that traditionally cheated on tests will benefit from a lack of tests available online, as well as a clear criterion to earn their reading grade in English.

Students that love to read will be encouraged to read for fun, and not for a test. Their creativity will be allowed to express their thoughts on novels, instead of just looking for by plot twists.

- **Expected Outcomes:** *(Detail the expected impact on student learning and academic experience)*

Students who traditionally looked up answers for AR tests will now be encouraged to read the book of their choice in its entirety. English submissions will be designed to prevent the use of AI-affiliated plagiarism as well as to encourage student creativity when demonstrating that they actually read the book.

Students who love reading will now get more common rewards that are easier to submit to the librarian. We are also looking to fund with other school money a Battle of the Books group that will be formed based on interest from the students who are submitting the extra entries each quarter.

- **Evaluation Plan:** *(Describe how you will assess the success of the project/initiative)*

The English department agreed that this would be a trial run for this year and we would meet again to discuss its success, and if they saw a greater quality in their quarterly reading evaluations.

Section 5: Additional Information

- **Previous Funding:** *(If applicable, list any previous funding received for similar projects/initiatives and their outcomes)*

Explained more prior, but previously there was funding for AR testing that was available that was greater than the amount requested.

- **Additional Comments:** *(Include any other information that may be relevant to the board's decision)*

Section 6: Approvals

• Applicant Signature:
• Date:
• Principal/Director Signature:
• Date:

Section 7: District Office Use Only

• Date Received: 9.24.2024
• Board Meeting Date: 10.18.2024
• Decision:
• Amount Approved:
• Comments:

Submission Instructions

Please submit the completed form to the District Office either in person or via email at csearby@kimberly.edu Ensure that the form is submitted at least 10 business days prior to the regularly scheduled board meeting to be considered for funding.