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Respondent

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Marianne Darrington

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### Applicant Information

1. **Name \***

Marianne Darrington

2. **School/Department \***

Kimberly Middle School

3. **Phone Number \***

4355128759

### Purpose and Objectives

4. **Brief Description of the Project/Initiative** *(Provide a concise overview of what you are planning to do) \**

I would like to ask for funds to aid in the Middle School Library's reading incentive program. In order to give incentives to the middle school students I have to do fundraising for all of the rewards. I have quarterly rewards that the students earn when they reach their reading goals (this averages out to be about \$100 - 200 per quarter), and I hold an end of year AR party for students who accomplished their AR goal all year long. (This averages to be about \$1,000.) This year per request of the English teachers I've added an extra incentive called points club. When students reach a certain amount of AR points they get rewarded. Students have risen to this challenge and so far the rewards have cost me \$300; with the need to continue funding this all year as students reach the points goals. The elementary has PTSO's help to fund their AR incentives, and the High school has decided to shift their reading program funds by cutting down the program at the high school to make rewards happen. I cannot cut down our program to distribute funds at the middle school. As this year continues I anticipate spending roughly \$3,000 for incentives for our Middle School student rewards. Any help to reward the amazing readers of the middle school would be greatly appreciated.

**5. Goals and Objectives** *(Describe the specific goals and objectives of the project/initiative and how they align with the district's mission and support student learning) \**

Each quarter the students at the middle school make reading goals for their English classes. To encourage students to read we like to add incentives for completing their goals. I try to vary the rewards so that the students enjoy and look forward to them. They vary from a fun treat, to free books, to experiences. The end of the year AR party needs to be big enough for students to want to work all year towards it. I understand I cannot go extreme (they've taken students to Wahooz in Boise before). Last year I spent \$1,000 to take the students to a movie and treat them to lunch and I want to continue to offer them a big reward for accomplishing a big goal of completing their goals all year. I have a goal of taking the middle school students to Gemstone climbing gym this spring and getting their "party" experience along with a lunch for the students. The points rewards club is new this year. We realize that quarterly rewards are not always enough motivation for our reluctant reader students and on the other side we realize we have amazing readers that reach their goal and continue to read above and beyond. So, as extra motivation my points club has no date boundaries. If my reluctant learners take months to reach a goal they are rewarded (even if they missed their quarterly goals), and if my energetic readers reach their goals quickly they are rewarded along the way and given incentive to continue their great work. My incentives for this program are deserts to a local restaurant in Twin (which I advocated for and got donated), \$5 gift card to Fiz Farm (which the students love!), \$10 to Barnes and Noble so they can choose their own book. I want to put together a big prize to raffle off to do a drawing for for all of the students who choose to be a part of the rewards program this year. Reading is the foundation of education; it is a part of everything our students do, and every subject that is taught. Growth in reading correlates to better understanding and is vital for students to continue to have success as they grow and move up in school. By supporting our reading program we are encouraging student growth and advocating for their success in school.

## Funding Details

**6. Total Amount of Funds Requested \***

\$3,000

**7. Current/Future Funds** *(What funds are currently available for this project and describe future fund-raising plans) \**

To be honest I am down to \$200 in my account (already spending \$300) this year. I plan to do fundraising throughout the school year to build up funds. If my fundraising is not successful I will have to scale back on the rewards and activities I am able to give to the students.

**8. Estimated Cost for Students** *(What is the estimated "out of pocket" cost per student) \**

I am hoping not to have this be a cost to the students at all. In the rewards had to be free items donated by others, and the students had to pay for part of the end of year experience. The fundraising I plan to do has already been submitted and would cost the students \$1.00 per event that I hope to hold.

**9. Budget Breakdown** *(Provide a detailed budget, including specific items, quantities and costs) \**

quarterly rewards: vary from a treat, to a free book, to an experience (costs vary from \$100 to \$200 per quarter, so about \$800 per year). Last years end of year party ended up costing \$1,000. I have received a partial quote from jump time for \$500, but it will grow as the amount of students I have attend grows, plus lunch which cost \$300 last year. So I'm hoping \$1,000 covers the cost of the end of year party. The first quarter has cost me \$350 for the points club with \$250 of that coming from Fizz Farm, and \$100 from Barnes and Noble. If this incentive continues to grow at this rate all year I expect to spend about \$300 per quarter and need about \$1,200 to finish out the school year for this incentive to work.

## Impacts and Outcomes

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

The incentive program I have is for the entire Middle School student body. We have 487 students at the middle school that this incentive program benefits. All students are included in my rewards when they complete their goals!

11. **Expected Outcomes** (Detail the expected impact on student learning and academic experience) \*

I consider motivation to be a big part of education, and often times having an incentive to help with motivation is necessary. My rewards are broken down into quarters and points goals that the students can achieve as they move along in the school year. The English teachers set the goals for students to reach and make sure they do so fairly and give each student the ability to read and succeed if they so choose. I know reading is the foundation for education. I know that a student who continues to grow in their reading skills is choosing to benefit their education in innumerable ways. I have seen how student growth in their reading has given them greater success overall as a student. I also believe that as students achieve their reading goals and earn rewards they will continue to have excitement and motivation to read!

12. **Evaluation Plan** (Describe how you will assess the success of the project/initiative) \*

I keep a detailed account of the students that reach goals each quarter and throughout the year. Students are given shout outs by their teachers in class as they reach the points goals I have set. I hope to see growth each quarter in the amount of students who work hard and achieve their reading goals. I would love to make this a record year in student AR achievement at the middle school.

### Additional Information

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

This is only my second year at the school so I am unsure of any additional funding for the reading program. Last year I had to raise funds for all that I did, and ended up scaling back rewards to stay under the amount I raised.

14. **Additional Comments** (Include any other information that may be relevant to the board's decision) \*

I hope to gain your support for this program; it impacts our whole middle school and having help with funds will only increase what I can do for our amazing students!

### Approvals

15. **Applicant Signature** (Type name below) \*

Marianne Darrington

16. **Principal/Director Signature** (Type name below) \*

Reed McCashland

17. **Date** \*

10/20/2024

### Submission Instructions

Please submit completed form at least 10 business days prior to the regularly scheduled board meeting to be considered for funding. Board Meeting dates can be found at <https://www.kimberly.edu/board-meeting-dates>

The Board kindly requests that a representative, including student representative(s), from your organization be present at the board meeting where your funding request will be discussed. This will allow for any questions or clarifications to be addressed as needed