**MARIAN UNIVERSITY**

**SCHOOL OF EDUCATION**

**Department of Educational Technology**

**EDT 655 - Developing Grant Proposals Integrating Technology**

**ACTION ASSIGNMENT 1 – Needs, Goals, Objectives, Activities & Outcomes**

**Name:** Jennifer Nelson **School & Grade Level:** Valley View Elementary School, Spanish 1, 3, 4, 5

**Grant Title:** Student Achievement Grant **Grantor:** NEA Foundation

**Grantor’s url:** <http://www.neafoundation.org/pages/educators/grant-programs/>

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Requirement | Criteria | Possible  Points | Self  Rating | Prof  Rating |
| Statement of Need, Goals and Objectives  (Problem) | * clearly stated the problem, issue or need * included at least three current references (last 5 years) * objectives are specific, measurable, achievable, relevant and time-bound | 3 | 3 |  |
| Activities & Outcomes  (Project Design) | * detailed schedule of activities and outcomes in table format with a narrative explaining the schedule * addressed the what, who, when, where, why and how questions * aligned activities and outcomes with goals and objectives | 3 | 3 |  |
| Conventions | * correctly and consistently followed grantor’s format and guidelines * no spelling or grammatical errors * neat, well-organized and appealing | 2 | 2 |  |
| Timeliness | * submitted on or before the due date | 2 | 2 |  |
| Total Points | | 10 | /10 | /10 |

Comments

**Statement of Need**

At Valley View Elementary School students have the opportunity to participate in Spanish class. Students begin in first grade with sixty minutes of instruction per week. Second graders receive ninety minutes of instruction per week and third through fifth grade students attend Spanish class four times a week for 30 minutes, for a total of 120 minutes per week. The primary goals of our program are language acquisition and increased cultural awareness, both of which are 21st century skills. Our students have learned a great deal through this program, but would benefit tremendously through direct communication with native Spanish speakers, and easier access to technology and digital information available to help increase cultural awareness and language acquisition. Cultural awareness is being conscious of the different cultures of the world. It is the foundation of communication, and using technology is a great way to learn about other cultures (Digiteen, 2011). Currently in my classroom, the lack of adequate technology hampers my efforts to reach our goals. Communication in the target language is limited to discussion within the classroom. It has rarely included communication with native speakers of the language in an authentic way. “(Language acquisition) requires meaningful interaction in the target language - natural communication - in which speakers are concentrated not in the form of their utterances, but in the communicative act” (Schutz, 2007). In my classroom students are asked to crowd around one computer or television screen to view various websites, presentations, examples, demonstrations, or to share student work. According to The Journal, using technology in the classroom makes teaching and learning more diversified and interactive, and helps to maximize the effectiveness of instruction (The Journal, 2002). So much digital, interactive technology is available today to help us meet the goals of language acquisition and increased cultural awareness. My elementary Spanish students need an enhanced, interactive and inspiring classroom experience that will help them to attain the 21st century skills needed to survive in todays’ world.

**Activities and Outcomes**

I, along with the support of the Ashwaubenon School District and Valley View Elementary School, am proposing to increase language acquisition in the target language and increase cultural awareness through the implementation of a an ongoing pen pals/Skype communication with native Spanish speakers from a Spanish speaking country, and the use of various web 2.0 tools including, but not limited to Prezi, Photo Story and/or Power Point to increase communicative skills and cultural awareness. In order to accomplish these goals an update of technology is necessary. An LCD projector, SMART board, speaker, and a document camera will allow me to teach to the entire class. No more will students be crowded around the television or computer screen. Anything available on my computer or in a book can be projected onto a large classroom screen or wall. Internet sites, Power Point projects, music videos, video casts, demonstrations and student work come to life at the press of a button. In a recent study, 98% of teachers who responded stated that interactive projectors provided a significant improvement in student attention while heightening their awareness and increasing their motivation (avpartner.com, 2011). With the help of this technology, video chats will be a reality, and we will all be able to see it and hear it! My students will be able to communicate with Spanish speakers from afar, and be excited about speaking Spanish in an authentic way! This equipment is essential, and will provide the means for implementing our project and attaining our goals.

**Below is the timetable for implementation of the curriculum:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **When?** | **What?** |
| Prior to 2011-2012 School year beginning | Teacher will make contact with other teachers from Spanish speaking countries around the world to find a suitable classroom match for our desired project. |
| 1st Trimester of 2011-2012 School Year | Students will   * Create a list of the things we **already know** about the country of our partner school and the culture of its people. * Create a list of the things we **would like to know** about the country of our partner school and the culture of its people. * Explore various websites, books, articles, songs etc. to increase the knowledge and cultural awareness of those living in the Spanish speaking country of our partner school. * Be paired up with students from our partner school. * Write their first letter in Spanish, with a complete English translation, practicing all of the grammar and vocabulary concepts we have learned thus far through our Spanish instruction. This letter will include basic introduction of themselves and a basic description of some of their likes/dislikes and basic information about their families. * Mail their letters to their “Spanish pen pal.” |
| 2nd Trimester of 2011-2012 School Year | Students will   * Receive their first letters from their “Spanish pen pal” * Have ongoing communication through a second and possibly a third letter. Communication may take the form of email, or class blog, depending on the desires of the other teacher and students. The goal of this communication is to practice our Spanish in an authentic way, to build relationships with our friends and to also learn the things from our list of things we still want to learn about this country. * Be introduced to various web 2.0 tools including Prezi, Photo Story and/or Power Point with which students can learn to present information they have learned through our pen pal experience. |
| 3rd Trimester of 2011-2012 School Year | Students will   * Experience a class to class Skype video conference in which each student will briefly introduce themselves in the target language. * Sit down at individual computers and have the opportunity to communicate one on one with their “pen pal” using Skype video conferencing. * Create a digital project using a web 2.0 tool to show how they feel about their experience and what they have learned. * Write a reflection about their experience. This can be included in the digital project. |

**References:**

"Ask Your Projector Question or Get Projector Tips and Advice from AVPartner's Projector Guru." *LCD Projectors: AVP Is Your Partner in DLP Projectors and LCD Projector Technology and Projection Accessories.* Web. 28 June 2011. <http://www.avpartner.com/tips\_classroom.aspx>.

"Cultural Awareness." *Digiteen: A Flat Classroom Project*. Digiteen Digital Citizen, 7 Apr. 2011.

<http://digiteen11-1.flatclassroomproject.org/Cultural+Awareness>.

Fryer, Wesley A. "Tools for the TEKS: Integrating Technology in the Classroom." May 2006. <http://www.wtvi.com/teks/05\_06\_articles/skype-in-the-classroom.html>.

"Multimedia Projectors: A Key Component in the Classroom of the Future -- THE Journal." *THE Journal: Technological Horizons in Education -- THE Journal*. 1 June 2002. <http://thejournal.com/articles/2002/06/01/multimedia-projectors-a-key-component-in-the-classroom-of-the-future>.

Schutz, Ricardo. "Stephen Krashen's Theory of Second Language Acquisition (Assimilação Natural - O Construtivismo No Ensino De Línguas)." *English Made in Brazil*. 2 July 2007. Web. 28 June 2011. <http://www.sk.com.br/sk-krash.html>.