

- Please address the following:
- This is a required field.
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The purpose of this application is to identify strategic initiatives that may require a waiver of district policy and/or state law. This form will allow applicants to clearly outline a challenge, their solution and the expected outcomes of their proposal. Please answer the following questions clearly and completely with the support of your principal and fellow council members.

Value Added Flexibility Form

Please select your school

Middle

River Trail Middle

What is the title of the concept you are proposing? *

Pixton Teacher Account

Please indicate which policy or policies you are requesting to waive. Click to access FCS Board Policies. (Please note code and title. Example: JBD Attendance and Absences). *

Per the application menu in the Instructional Technology Hub, "District leadership has placed a moratorium on purchases of software and web-based application subscriptions. Until this moratorium is lifted, no new applications (applications not in the menu) may be purchased."

1) What need or challenge is your school facing? *Describe the problem and how you became aware that it needed to be addressed.* *

Our foreign language teachers are looking for ways to support language learning in context.

2) What is your proposed solution to the need or challenge described above? *Describe how a waiver to FCS policy would allow you to successfully address the identified need/challenges(s).* *

Foreign language teachers at River Trail Middle School hope to have access to Pixton.com, but due to the moratorium on software purchases, foreign language teachers are unable to use the program.

3) Why do you believe your value-added flexibility proposal will work? *Include any research/evidence that leads you to believe that the flexibility will accomplish the school's need.* *

Pixton Comics is an engaging digital resource to empower students' writings, collaborations, and use of the target language creatively and in context. It allows students to create comics and dialogues / skits using authentic backgrounds and props. It is an engaging and creative performance assessment tool in which students can use the target language in context. Students can work individually as well as collaboratively with groups to create real life conversations using the target language in context. Teachers can create unlimited classrooms and assign activities for students individually or in groups. Teachers get a dashboard to manage students'

4) How does your proposal align with your school's strategic direction? *Draw connections between the proposed solution and the needs of your school and/or community.* *

This project hopes to increase world language fluency and conversational skills in our students, and by increasing their success, it will prepare students to perform well in the high school setting.

5) What are the intended outcomes of this proposal? *Discuss the improvements you expect by implementing this value-added flexibility.* *

Increased vocabulary and dialogue skills in foreign languages.

6) What steps will you take to implement your initiative? *Include any resources, required training/professional development and/or additional implications associated with the proposal.* *

Once purchased, our foreign language teachers will be given access to the site. Teachers will work with their PLCs to create lesson plans and incorporate Pixton activities in the classroom.

7) What data will you collect and analyze to measure the success of your initiative? Describe the **qualitative** (e.g. focus groups, observations, open responses, interviews, etc.) and/or **quantitative** (e.g. academic achievement, survey data, participation data, etc.) data you will collect to assess the effectiveness of your initiative? *

Qualitative data collected will be observations in the classroom as well as discussion with teachers during PLC meetings. Quantitative data will review student achievement and student assessment data to determine how this project is supporting vocabulary acquisition and dialogue skills.

8) What are the costs associated with your proposal? *Describe any impact(s) to your budget.* *

Approximately \$1200 for all foreign language teachers to have individual accounts. (\$120 per teacher)

9) What impact will your proposal have on day-to-day operations? *Address any changes to human or capital resources (e.g. scheduling, employee responsibilities, existing processes, etc.).* *

None

10) What impact will your proposal have on district operations? *Include any possible effects to human resources, academics, nutrition, scheduling, transportation, technology, facilities, budget services, etc.* *

The IT team would need to be aware of the purchase, but no support is requested for the platform. The teachers would have access to Pixton.com's FAQ and troubleshooting page.

SAVE AND SUBMIT