

ORANGE COUNTY
BOARD OF EDUCATION

AGENDA ITEM ABSTRACT

Meeting Date: March 21, 2011

AGENDA ITEM No. 11-03-(2)-08

ACTION ITEM: (Y/N) Y

SUBJECT: Request for Matching Funds

INFO. CONTACT Patrick Rhodes PHONE: 919-732-8126

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Matching Funds-Parent Teacher Organization/Booster Groups Policy #8430.
2. Request from Orange County Schools District Special Education PTA (SEPTA).
3. Request from Hillsborough Elementary School.

PURPOSE: To secure approval from the Board of Education for a \$1,000.00 each matching funds request for the following:

1. Orange County Schools District Special Education PTA (SEPTA).
2. Hillsborough Elementary School.

BACKGROUND: To encourage the participation and efforts of organized booster and parent-teacher groups in support of the schools, the Orange County Board of Education has established and operates a matching funds program. Each fiscal year, one group per school may request a one-time matching grant of up to \$1,000.00 on a dollar-for-dollar basis to match an amount of money generated by the group for the benefit of the school. To qualify for matching funds, the applicant group must agree to spend the total amount (both matching grant and collected funds) on a project that benefits a large school group and has a lasting value to the students.

Following Board approval, in order for matching funds to be disbursed, school principals submit a Request for Reimbursement Form, with required documentation of expenditures, to the Director of Finance for processing.

FINANCIAL IMPACT: \$2,000.00.

RECOMMENDATION: The Superintendent recommends the Board of Education approve the request for matching funds for an appropriation of \$1,000.00 each to the requesting school/group.

**MATCHING FUNDS-PARENT
TEACHER ORGANIZATION/
BOOSTER GROUPS**

Date Reviewed/Approved: 02/05/07

Policy Number: 8430

Rescinds Policy Number: LEBA, LEBA

Issued: 10/06/80, 2/03/1992, 04/19/2004

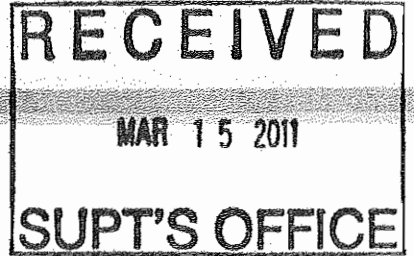
To encourage the participation and efforts of organized booster and parent-teacher groups in support of the schools, the Orange County Board of Education has established and operates a matching fund program. Each fiscal year, one group per school may request a one-time matching grant of up to \$1000 per year on a dollar for dollar basis to match an amount of money generated by the group of the benefit of the school. School principals with more than one eligible group will establish rotating schedules for all groups which may allow one or more requests per year; however, the amount per school will be limited to \$1000 per year.

Booster groups that represent more than one school are also eligible for this annual matching grant, provided the project benefits all schools represented by the multi-school booster group. Such groups shall submit matching grant requests directly to the superintendent for funds separated and apart from those made available to the individual schools. Matching funds for multi-school booster groups shall also be limited to \$1000 per year.

To qualify for matching funds, the applicant group must agree to spend the total amount (both matching grant and collect funds) on a project that benefits a wide school group population and has a lasting value to the students.

Each request must be submitted to the superintendent for his/her recommendation to the school board for its action prior to any expenditure. The request must include a list of the item(s) to be purchased, the total cost of the item or project, and a short description of the benefits to the schools. All requests for matching funds should be submitted as early in the school year as possible so that students can receive the full benefit of the project in the year funded. Requests will not be accepted after March 15 and projects must be completed in the same fiscal year unless you are granted administrative approval to exceed the standard completion date.

Legal Reference: G.S. 115C-36, 115C-47, 115C-276, 115C-288



3/14/2011

Pam Scism
OC SEPTA

Mr. Patrick Rhodes, Superintendent, OCS
Mr. Tony McKnight, Board of Education, OCS
200 East King Street
Hillsborough, NC

Mr. Rhodes and Mr. McKnight,

Orange County Schools District Special Education PTA (SEPTA) raised funds from the educational walk/run to build a lending library for parents and children in our school district. We have designated \$1,300.00 for this and would like to request the matching \$1,000.00 to purchase items needed.

We would like to purchase the following items:

6 Kindle Readers – \$150.00 each- We have hundreds of children that would benefit from the reader. Many children need large print books but it is very difficult to find large print for higher reading levels. The Kindle can increase print/font to needed size. Also, the Kindle has voice recognition for thousands of books. Additional documentation attached.

3 iPADS - \$400.00 each - Help children with speech and communication. All grades will benefit from the iPad. The iPad has several uses in the classroom, and has been praised as a valuable tool. Soon after the iPad was released, it was reported that 81% of the top book apps were for children. The iPad has also been called a revolutionary tool to help children with autism learn how to communicate and socialize more easily. Attached documentation.

* recreational devices – we have been told that OCS have items that can come out of storage and be placed at New Hope and Pathways Elementary – SEPTA will not purchase at this time. Email attached from OCS.

* music therapy equipment including instruments and cd's – a couple of parents will fund until we raise more money or the school provides.

* IEP/Wrightslaw Library – a couple parents will fund until we raise more money or the school provides.

These items would be available and benefit over 1,000 students in our district. We thank you and appreciate your review and approval of our request.

Sincerely,

Pam Scism
President
OC SEPTA



From: Pam Scism <pamscism@aol.com>
To: missmegan003 <missmegan003@yahoo.com>; swingate2007 <swingate2007@gmail.com>; MSINGRID <MSINGRID@NC.RR.COM>; PamScism <PamScism@aol.com>
Subject: Fwd: recreational supplies
Date: Mon, Mar 14, 2011 5:51 pm

I thought this was very interesting after we brought up recreational needs.

-----Original Message-----

From: Charlotte Hughes <Charlotte.Hughes@orange.k12.nc.us>
To: PamScism <PamScism@aol.com>
Cc: Milinda Martina <Milinda.Martina@orange.k12.nc.us>; Beverly Jones <Beverly.Jones@orange.k12.nc.us>; Leah Waldrop <Leah.Waldrop@orange.k12.nc.us>; Frank Meadows <Frank.MEADOWS@orange.k12.nc.us>
Sent: Mon, Mar 14, 2011 2:38 pm
Subject: RE: recreational supplies

Pam,

There are 2 classes that I think would really appreciate one of the molded plastic swings. One is Beverly Jones class at New Hope and the other is Leah Waldrop's preK class at Pathways. Leah has 2 non-ambulatory students and another that could not safely use a regular swing. Beverly has 2 children who are non-ambulatory and 2 others who do not safely use a regular swing. All of these students would enjoy and benefit from the vestibular stimulation of swinging. Their opportunities for engagement on the playground are limited.

I just spoke with Frank Meadows to ask some questions about swings on playgrounds. He already has 2 molded plastic adapted swing seats. (One large and one small). So it is not necessary for you to buy swings for these two classrooms. He is going to initiate the work order to have the larger one installed at New Hope and the smaller one installed on the Kindergarten playground (adjoining the preK playground) at Pathways. There are some safety regulations about swings on a preK playground so I think it will work for the swing to be installed on the existing frame on the Kindergarten playground. Leah's children will have to have assistance to use the swing so there should be adequate supervision for safety.

I have spoken with Leah about other outdoor play options for her students. There is a website <http://www.groundsforplay.com/> that has a lot of interesting looking options. One that Leah and I both like is something called aqua blocks. I have seen something like this used at a private preschool and it is very popular with the students. It would allow all children to play together. The music curricula section also has several interesting options for all children to enjoy. I am not sure how much you want to spend so I will just refer you to this page and would be glad to look at specific items before you order to see if it seems like it would be accessible to children in wheelchairs or strollers. The steel drums or the glockenspiel might be good options. I am usually at Pathways all day on Mondays so if you would like to meet some Monday after school to talk about these things let me know. Thanks for your help with some new equipment.

Charlotte



Hillsborough Elementary School

Ensuring Student Success by Inspiring Hearts and Minds

402 North Nash Street
Hillsborough, NC 27278

Jen Benkovitz, Principal
Jon Corcoran, Assistant Principal

Phone: 919.732.6137
Fax: 919.732.7791

To: Orange County Board of Education
From: Jennifer Benkovitz, Ed.D.
Re: Matching Grant
Date: March 16, 2011

During the fall, the PTA sponsored a Read-A-Thon to raise money for our Cultural Arts program (sub-committee of our PTA) so that we could collaborate with the Durham Arts Council to provide artist residencies designed for the classroom. Of the total amount raised through the Read-A-Thon, \$5,501 was raised for our Cultural Arts program. Please consider this request for matching funds in the amount of \$1,000 to supplement the cost of our Artists in Residence program.

- Kindergarten Artist in Residence:
 - Willa Brigham
 - "Happy, Healthy Habits"
 - NCSCOS Integration: Students learned about hygiene, healthy food and good manners. Material was presented through song and poetry.
- First
 - School House of Wonder
 - "Nature Program"
 - NCSCOS Integration: First graders experienced the daily life of early settlers courtesy of School House of Wonder. Activities ranged from making butter, using tinder and flint to make a fire, marveling at the uses of simple machines, listening to stories, and playing traditional games. This was a peek into the day-to-day lives of pioneers living in the Piedmont.
- Second
 - String Celebration
 - "Songs of Science"
 - NCSCOS Integration: Through music and movement, students learned about a variety of science topics covered in the 2nd grade NCSCOS. Topics included life cycles, sound, change of properties and sound/weather.
- Third
 - Cong Yuan
 - Chinese Festival
 - NCSCOS Integration: The students learned about China: the land, the people, tai chi, the dances, the writing, and the art. The students benefited from many hands on experiences: painting Chinese art, writing Chinese characters, learning Chinese phrases, and dancing the lion and ribbon dances. The 3rd

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grade Social Studies NCSCOS focuses on learning about different people and places throughout time. The opportunity to have Dr. Yuan in the classrooms gave the students the chance to see and compare their lives to life in China.

- Fifth Artist in Residence:
 - Phillip Shabaaz
 - Poetry
 - NCSCOS Integration: Philip Shabaaz did a week long residence in 5th grade. He worked with the students to create poetry, taking them through the process very slowly and deliberately, just as a he does as a 'real' poet. Each day the students practiced and implemented the use of a new literary device. Each activity allowed the students to use their memories of people and places to create poems that they were proud of. There was lots of time for them to share their writing and the children learned how to critique and listen. During their share time they also worked on speaking clearly and slowly so that everyone could learn from their hard work.

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