STEAMBOAT SPRINGS EDUCATION FUND BOARD GRANT COMMISSION MEETING December 19, 2012; 6:00 PM Human Service Center Board Room

Grant Commission members present included Dean Massey, Ann Henderson, Paul Berry, Laura Kaster, Barb Parnell and Kevin Lind. Also present was Roger Good (EFB), Brad Meeks (SSSD Superintendent), Scott Mader (S. Routt Superintendent), Tim Miles (SSSD and S. Routt Director of Technology) and grant requestors named below. Ann Henderson recorded the meeting and Denise Brazier, Ski Town Executive Service, prepared the minutes.

**Call to Order:**

Dean Massey called the meeting to order.

**Public Comment:**

There was no public comment.

**Board and Commission Member Reports:**

There were no board or commission member reports.

**Approval of minutes from November 14, 2012:**

*A motion was made and seconded to approve the Grant Commission meeting minutes from November 14, 2012.*

*Vote: \_\_\_7 Yes\_\_\_ \_\_\_0 No\_\_\_ The motion passed unanimously.*

**Appointment of a 3rd Representative to the Education Fund Board:**

Stuart Handloff has resigned from the Grant Commission. If a 3rd member is not interested to be on the Grant Commission, the bylaws would have to be changed for 2 Grant Commission members as representatives to the EFB. The consensus of the commission was that 2 representatives were adequate. Dean will report back to the EFB.

**First Reading of Non-District Programming Funds:**

Dean reported the EFB has been working on revising the budget process for the community groups, now referred to as Non-District Programming Funds. Going forward, the process for the Non-District Programming Funds will be the same as the process for the Innovation Grant. The Grant Commission will determine an amount to recommend to EFB for approval. The Grant Commission will determine how much would go to each community group. Last year’s amount of $ 67,000 was allocated to the community groups. There is no requirement to give any money to the community groups and this number represents a maximum amount. The rationale was to minimize what has been a large part of the discussion for a small 2-3 % of the budget. After discussion, *Paul Berry made a motion and the motion was seconded, to set a maximum amount of $ 70,000 for the community groups*. Discussion: The next step is a 1st reading for the EFB.

*Vote: \_\_\_7 Yes\_\_\_ \_\_\_0 No\_\_\_ The motion passed unanimously.*

**Mission Statement:**

*To enhance academic accomplishment in Routt Co. through appropriate student facing investments in staff, facilities, infrastructure, technology and curriculum, made available through our public schools.*

The mission statement has been discussed at the board level and Dean asked for comments. Eliminating the word ‘appropriate’ will be suggested to the EFB as ‘appropriate’ should be a given.

**Budget Cycle Process Guidelines:**

Dean asked for comments and concerns. One concern is the 2nd reading for the Community Group allocation will happen after the funds are allocated by the Grant Commission. There were no additional comments or concerns.

**Introduction to innovative grant requests:**

Dean said innovative grant requests total $ 76,559 and $ 35,000 is available for allocation. Dean requested a 5 minute presentation from each grant applicant followed by a 5 minute Q&A session. Commission deliberation will follow. Information provided should include the contact person, what school is represented, specifically what the funds will purchase, where the project will go if partially funded, why the proposal is innovative, the target population and number of students that will be affected.

Conflict of interest will be disclosed on the conflict of interest forms. Barb Parnell disclosed that her children will be affected by two of the grant requests.

Grant applications are attached to theses minutes.

**8th Grade Interactive Tech $ 8500 (SBS):**

**Contact Person:** Amy Bohmer, SSMS 8th grade teacher

**Purchases:** 3 Smartboards with installation, projectors and 3 document cameras

**Number of Students Benefited:** 150 - 8th grade American History and Language Arts students

**Reason Innovative:** This technology provides daily positive impact, excitement and engagement for the students.

**Partial Funding:** A cost breakdown is included on the application to address partial funding.

**Additional Funding and Comments:**

* Training is not included but co-teachers can help
* SmartBoard sales have plateaued and will eventually be replaced by other technology

**High School Flip Classroom $ 16,700 (SBS):**

**Contact Person:** Nat Cooper, SSHS 9th grade science teacher

**Purchases:** $ 12,000 for a stipend for Nat Cooper, $ 2500 for equipment and the balance to pay for assistance

**Number of students benefited**: All high school students will be affected and beyond.

**Reason Innovative:** The flip classroom increases student achievement by providing foot teaching where the information is delivered via podcast providing scheduling flexibility, increased face-to-face time with the students and answers the question of what to do when students miss a class. The program also addresses different ability levels in the classroom.

**Partial Funding:** The program will continue with no or partial funding.

**High School Ag Ed Concurrent Enrollment Certificate $11,250 (South Routt)**

**Contact Person:** Jay Whaley, South Routt Ag Ed teacher

**Purchases:** The funds would provide partial matching funds to support personnel to help build the Ag Ed program providing students with a certificate in agriculture and will help fund equipment and technology needs such as mobile labs. **CMCC** has verbally committed to the match.

**Number of students benefited**: The program could meet the needs of all students at no cost to the student.

**Reason Innovative:** The program will be the first agriculture program offered in Colorado. South Routt will provide the leadership.

**Additional Comments and Question:** The goal is to help students become more employable and will provide college credit.

**Middle School Special Ed iPad Learning Lab $4,000 (SBS)**

**Contact Person:** Erin Dargis, SSMS research teacher

**Purchases:** iPad learning labs to finish last year’s project

**Students benefited:** A total of 90 students with disabilities will be affected.

**Reason Innovative:** The program provides an innovative way to help and engage students with disabilities.

**Partial Funds**: The program can be partially funded

**Additional Information and Comments:** This program was a previous recipient of EFB innovative funds. Part of last year’s funds was rescinded and this request completes what was approved last year.

**6th Grade iPads $12,000 (SBS)**

**Contact person:** Kathy Girard, 6th grade teacher

**Purchase:** 25 iPads with cases

**Students benefited:** A total of 173 - 6th grade students will be affected.

**Reason Innovative:**  The iPads will enable teachers to redefine the curriculum for students to access applications improving creativity and changing the method of teaching. There is no other classroom where students can access 100% technology. The iPads will expose students to be able to go out into the world.

**Partial Funds:** The request could be partially funded.

**Additional Information and Comments**: Teachers feel it is best to have iPads available in the classroom as opposed to sharing with other classrooms and to not restrict scheduling. Concern was expressed regarding teacher training and that the request is more a technology request than innovative.

**Middle School GATE Mobile Lab $13,000 (SBS)**

**Contact Person:** Sally Howard, 6th grade teacher

**Purchases:** 26 iPads and 3 MacBook Airs

**Students Benefited:** A total of 70 - 6th, 7th and 8th grade gifted students will be affected.

**Reason Innovative**: The lab would provide the devices to access applications that grow exponentially that providing innovation.

**Additional Information and Comments:** Sally spoke of the importance to engage gifted students, the implications of not providing what the students need and the importance of the students knowing what they are being taught is relevant.

At this time, Roger Good encouraged commission members to consider if iPads are going to be gifted, to consider iPads with more capability. The cost for a 64 gig iPad is $ 679 which would reduce the number provided and increase the need to share among the students . Roger also recommends the schools develop a policy for a standardization of applications.

**Middle School GATE Mobile Microscope $1,359 (SBS)**

**Contact person:** Carly Zeigler, SSMS science teacher for G/T

**Purchase:** wireless microscope with lens, resources and a stand

**Students Benefited:** All middle school students will be affected

**Reason Innovative:** The microscope would provide insight into the wonder of nature as never before and how new things can be innovated as a result.

**Partial funding:** Partial funding was not addressed.

**Additional Information and Comments:** The program has not been previously funded by EFB, contrary to what the application says.

**SCE Grade 3-5 iPads $3,750 (SBS)**

**Contact Person:** Helen Bart???, Soda Creek resource teacher

**Purchase:** at least 6 iPads with cases, carts, docking station and apps

**Students Benefited:** A total of 40 students with classic learning disabilities would be affected. The iPads could also be made available to younger and ELL students.

**Reason Innovative:** The iPads would provide unique applications that would enhance student achievement, the ability to share increased proficiency of the students with parents, would increase engagement, excitement and motivation.

**Partial Funding:** Partial funding could be utilized.

**High School STEM 3D Printer Project $6,000 (SOROCO)**

**Contact person:** Randy Homan

**Purchase:** 2 printers

**Students Benefited**: All the students in the high school and middle school would be affected.

**Reason Innovative:** The printer can produce anything. The printer comes as a kit and would be built by computer technology engineering students (2 students).

**Partial funding**: Partial funding could be utilized to buy 1 printer.

**Additional Information and Comments:** The printer can be used collaboratively throughout the school and is cross curricular.

The following grant commission policies were discussed:

* The commission was uncomfortable using the funds to pay for a stipend. The flip classroom could be supported by paying for the hardware component.
* Most commission members feel the schools should figure out a way to share iPads and work collaboratively.
* Innovative projects are things that are new and never done before.
* IPads are innovative in the special needs classroom and the gifted/talented program.
* IPads are a tool that provides innovation.
* Some requests are technology requests versus a tool for innovation.

The consensus of the commission was to fund $ 26,000 of the requests (detailed later in the motion), leaving $ 8,040.

Roger said $ 379.00 buys the iPad II. The current generation is an iPad 4 for $ 679.00. Another

$ 300.00 increases the life of the product 4 times. Roger would recommend authorizing $ 679.00 for the 64 gig iPads, $ 100 for apps and $ 50.00 for a case, equaling $ 829.00 per iPad. A total of 11 iPads could be purchased. Ann said 2 students can use 2-16’s where only 1 student can use a 1-64. The teachers are saying they need the greater numbers. The commission considered the numbers needed, how soon the iPads will be obsolete and how the iPads are innovative.

*A motion was made and seconded to support the Flip Classroom for $ 2,700 for hardware and software, the Ag Ed as written for $ 11,250, middle school special education iPad learning lab for $ 4,000, elementary special education grades 3-5 iPads for $ 3,750 as written, one high school STEM printer project in South Routt for $ 3,000 and the middle school GATE microscope for $ 1,379 totaling $ 26,060.*

*Vote: \_\_\_6 Yes\_\_\_ \_\_\_0 No\_\_\_ The motion passed unanimously.*

The iPad requestors were directed to come back to the commission with a revised proposal for the remaining $ 8,040. The direction included that requests should be combined, provide a specific plan on the innovative use of the technology and how the innovation provided by the iPads aids students in learning a new way. Brad said Tim Bishop will facilitate the discussion. Barb will draft an email to send to the board for review and then send to the requestors of the 6th grade and GATE for presentation in January. The letter should state the efforts are supported but the innovative piece is missing.

**Adjourn:**

The meeting adjourned at 9:50 PM.

**Exhibits:**

* Agenda
* 2012-2013 Budget Cycle Process Guidelines
* Innovation Grant Applications