

GLASSBORO SCHOOL DISTRICT

Updated 2/1/05

Monthly Board Items

Date Submitted:
2.17.16

Proposed Effective Date:
March – April 16, 2016

Grade(s) impacted:
8-12

Name:
MaryBeth Ragozzino

Position/Item:
Grant Request

Submitted By:
Dr. Danielle F. Sneathen

Building:
GHS

Proposed cost/amount:
0

Funded through:
Donors Choose

Hours/Days per wk:

Benefits: Y or N
(circle one)

Is candidate currently employed by District:
___ No ___ **X** Yes

Is candidate a former employee:
___ No ___ Yes

(if yes, what position)

If yes, part time or **full time** (circle one)

Check references/review district personnel file?

___ No ___ Yes

Board Action Requested: I am requesting that the board allow GHS to post a grant request on the website, DonorsChoose.org, to fund a Rachel's Challenge Assembly. GHS is hoping to earn funding to complete the budgetary needs for our Rachel's Challenge assembly. The Donors Choose website is nationally recognized and was used by Ms. Thomas and other area teachers with success in funding classroom projects and endeavors.

www.donorschoose.org

<http://rachelschallenge.org/>

Details and ramifications:

The project is vetted by the website administrators and funds raised are not actually ever given to the teacher/school/district.

The Municipal Alliance has funded \$500 and the GHS anonymous donor has funded \$890.82. The Friends of Rachel Club at GHS has raised \$250 by doing fundraisers. We have asked Pastor Larry Oksten and his congregation for their assistance and have been promised at least \$300.00. This Donors Choose project would be to garner the remaining funding (Approximately \$2, 800.00) needed to host this amazing assembly.

Positives:

This purchase would come from individual donors who want to assist GHS in this endeavor. It would not come from the school or district budget. This assembly has an amazingly positive message and reinforces the anti-bullying message we work so diligently to promote.

Concerns: The GHS chapter of the Friends of Rachel Club is active with more than 40 members. However, there are no current students who have been able to witness it as the graduating Class of 2015 were the last students to see it when they were in the ninth grade. If we are fortunate enough to get this funding we would invite the current 8th graders from GIS to view it so we would have a five year cycle before we would need to have it again.

Other Comments:

Please see the attached grant that was written by GHS staff to the Glassboro Education Foundation. Sadly, they are not awarding any monies this year for teacher/school level grants.

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

Board Date: _____

Approved: Y or N

Index #: _____

Glassboro Education Foundation, Inc.

Send the completed application to Grants@glassboroed.org

or

Send the completed to the attention of:

Betty Ann Marchese
Beach Administration Building
Joseph L. Bowe Blvd
Glassboro, NJ 08028

A. General Information

Applicant(s): Marybeth Ragazzino and Lynn Hartman

School: Glassboro High School

Principal: Dr. Danielle Sneathen

Grade Level or Subject: Grades 9-12

Phone: (school) 856 652 2700 ext. 8173 or 1214 (Home): 609 417 8372

E-mail(s): mragazzino@glassboroschools.us lhartmanglassboroschools.us

B. Statement of Assurances:

The applicant hereby assures the Glassboro Education Foundation that:

1. The applicant(s) meet(s) the eligibility criteria.
2. The activities and services for which the grant is sought will be implemented as written.
3. Any monies not expended within the school year shall revert back to the Glassboro Education Foundation, unless permission to carry it into the next school year is granted.
4. All publicity releases regarding a funded project will acknowledge the Glassboro Education Foundation and/or a particular mini-grant sponsor as the funding agency.
5. The grant recipient(s) will submit a final report summarizing the project's evaluation results.
6. The Board of Education authorizes the filing of this application.

We do hereby certify that all of the facts, figures and representations made in this application are true and correct to the best of our knowledge and that the assurances as stated above are understood and will be followed in their entirety.

Signature of Applicant

Signature of Principal

Please note: from this page on, please do not include your name or your school in any of your descriptions as all applications are coded to prevent bias.

C. Project Title and Description

Title of Project: Rachel's Challenge

Subject Area(s): This interactive assembly program for students, staff, and community members supports the interdisciplinary One Book Glassboro community-wide summer reading program as well as the our school district's anti-bullying campaign.

Approximate Number of Students Participating: 577 (all students)

Project Starting Date: One Book Summer Reading May, 2015 Project Completion Date: Spring, 2016 Event with ongoing Anti Bullying Campaign.

Need: Describe the problem or deficiencies that exist which require the improvements described.

Since undesirable behaviors like harassment, intimidation and bullying continue to be a problem in both society at large and in our school, we would like to help solve the problem by promoting the message of Rachel Joy Scott and continue the work she started at Columbine High School. Rachel was the first victim of the shooting at Columbine, yet her real legacy is the code of ethics she lived by which is outlined in *Chain Reaction*, a book written by her father and chosen as our community wide summer reading selection. The book explains how Rachel promoted the idea of compassion through her daily acts and how she created a ripple of kindness that was far-reaching. We would like to build a school culture that sustains the kind of safe, caring and supportive learning environment that is essential for academic achievement, and this assembly will encourage our students to examine their own behaviors and start a chain reaction of kindness themselves.

Strategy: Briefly describe your plan to alleviate the need/problem.

To bring more kindness and compassion to our school and the community we have already held informal classroom book talks on the summer reading, extended October's Week of Respect into an entire month and created monthly activities like our Thanksgiving Breakfast, Operation Christmas Child, and fundraising for the Susan G.Komen Kennedy Cancer Treatment Center. These activities are the mission of the Friends of Rachel Club established in March of 2012 after the initial Rachel's Challenge Day was held here at GHS. Since none of our current students have experienced the "Challenge Assembly" we would like to reignite the spirit of this program and increase participation. To equip both students and adults with strategies that create and sustain a safe and supportive learning environment, we will invite all staff, students and interested community members to a morning assembly titled "Awaken the Learner: Five Step School Improvement Process". A second session will focus on a more intensive program designed for students considered at-risk and an evening assembly will be held to introduce parents and interested community members to the program.

Glassboro Education Foundation

Grant Application

D. Objectives, Activities and Evaluation Techniques (This page may be duplicated if necessary)

Objectives	Program Activities to Accomplish Objectives	Completion Date	Evaluation Techniques
<p>Participants will be equipped with strategies to identify and combat bullying intimidation and harassment.</p> <p>Participants will learn that they are free to start a new legacy not defined by labels placed on them by others currently or in the past.</p> <p>Participants will examine their own lives in light of personal challenges and learn strategies to dream big and start a chain reaction of kindness.</p> <p>Students will be encouraged to get involved in Rachel's Challenge, promote positive change and not be a bystander.</p> <p>Teachers will be introduced to a teacher's kit including related videos, lesson plans and assessments they can share in their classroom to sustain the message.</p>	<p>Two assemblies will be held during the day: the first 60 minute assembly, Awaken, is an inspiring kickoff event to create emotional connection and community buy-in. The Challenge Assembly focuses on five challenges:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Leave a legacy of kindness 2. Show compassion 3. Practice pre-acceptance 4. Learn from mistakes 5. Forgive yourself and others <p>A second 90 minute follow-up called the Legacy Assembly provides more intensive outreach for up to 100 students including those at-risk. It tells a series of stories from the perspective of those whose lives were touched by Rachel and encourages participants to take specific steps toward making their own positive legacy a reality and trains them to be ambassadors of kindness.</p>	<p>The assembly will be held on a day in the spring.</p> <p>Related Rachel's Challenge activities in the school and in the community are ongoing</p>	<p>A 20 question pre- test (survey) designed by Marzano will assess student attitudes toward bullying harassment and intimidation and students perceptions of the climate and safety of their school.</p> <p>A second post-test survey administered in June will measure perceived changes in the school culture two months later.</p> <p>Anecdotal evidence will also be collected.</p>

A third hour-long assembly will be held in the evening for interested parents and community members to introduce them to Rachel's Challenge.

Friends of Rachel Club activities are ongoing and include promoting awareness through school displays and bulletin boards as well as designing activities that generate interest in the program and promote its philosophy through school and community outreach.

Itemized Budget

Materials/Equipment	Services	Evaluation Techniques
<u>Item(s)</u> T shirts for Friends of Rachel Club \$300 Promotional Materials \$100	<u>Assembly Package: \$4800</u> <u>Substitutes: \$450</u> The assembly package includes the following: 2 Years of Lessons in Classroom Sustainability Kit Friends of Rachel Training Three Assemblies (1 student assembly for grades 9-12, 1 100 student assembly for at-risk students and 1 evening Community assembly) Professional Development with Dr Dina Rowe Videos Substitutes (10 half day subs will be needed for the 100 student afternoon assembly so teachers can provide support)	<u>Item(s)</u> Pre and post survey are included in the package <u>Cost</u>
<u>Sub-total: \$400</u>	<u>Sub-total: \$5250</u>	<u>Grand Total: \$5650</u>