****

**PTO LINKS TO LEARNING**

**TEACHER GRANT OPPORTUNITY**



October 4, 2017

Dear District 103 Staff:

It is time once again to consider whether you are interested in receiving a financial award to cover the costs of implementing a new teaching idea in our district.  The District 103 PTO would like to encourage you to apply for a grant that supports innovative learning methods.

A maximum of $20,000 worth of “Links to Learning” teacher grants will be awarded this year by the District 103 PTO. We will award these grants 2 times per school year, with application deadlines in November and January. They are available to teachers, administrators and other educators within our district. Please take advantage of this opportunity to get a little extra money to fund a creative classroom project or program that enhances our curriculum.

Attached and on the PTO website (www. [d103pto.org/links-to-learning-teacher-grants.html](http://dist103pto.weebly.com/links-to-learning-teacher-grants.html)) you will find the grant application. All applications must be typed on this form.  A grant can be requested for any amount; however, please use $1000 as a general guideline.  The Links to Learning Committee will evaluate each application for its:

* Innovative and educational nature;
* Curriculum enhancement potential;
* Budget reasonableness; and
* Direct impact on students.

Our committee will be reviewing the grants using a control number to avoid any possible bias, so only the submission cover sheet will include applicant(s) names.

To give you an idea, some of the grants funded by this PTO program in the past include:

* Makerspace
* Swivl Robotic Platform
* The ASE AstroSat Challenge
* Ukeleles
* Ipads for a Daniel Wright classroom to share
* Letter Factory Kindergarten Home Reading Intervention
* Cycles of Matter: Tree Planting – 6-7 new trees at Half Day
* 5 Classroom Sound Amplification & Lesson Capture Systems – HD 4th Grade Teaching Team
* Active Seating for Daniel Wright Classroom
* Culturally Responsive Literature Program – Sprague
* ACER Chromebooks for a Sprague classroom
* Makerbot 3D Printer for Half Day School
* Rekenreks for Sprague classroom
* LEGO Education WeDo Robotics
* World Book Encyclopedia On-Line Subscription for libraries
* SMART Math Software

Please submit your completed application to your principal for approval by November 6, 2017.  Upon approval by your principal, all entries will be forwarded to the Executive Director of Curriculum and Instruction's office no later than November 17, 2017.  **No late entries will be accepted.**  The Links to Learning Committee will notify all applicants the week of December 11th of their funding decision. We will send out a reminder in January with deadlines for the 2nd grant period.

If you have any questions, please contact Katie Reynolds at 847-295-4030, kreynolds@d103.org , or stop by the office.

Sincerely,

**PTO’s Links to Learning Committee**

Tania Surane, PTO Vice-President & Chairperson

Robin Babbo, PTO President

Heather Vasilenko, Treasurer

Lauren Dardick, PTO Vice-President, Sprague School

Michelle Brooks, PTO Vice-President, Half Day School

Christine Murray-Upadhyay, PTO Vice-President, Daniel Wright Junior High School

Katie Reynolds, Executive Director of Curriculum and Instruction

Attachment: Links to Learning Grant Application



**Control**

**Number**: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Links to Learning Grant Application**

***Return completed grant application to your principal by November 7, 2017***

**APPLICANTS NAME: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Name of Project or Program: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Grade and/or Subject \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Applicant Signature and Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Principal Approval and Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Executive Director of Curriculum and Instruction Approval and Date:**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_



**School District 103 PTO**

 **Links to Learning**

**Teacher Grant Application**

**Control Number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**(**to be assigned by curriculum and instruction dept**)**

**Program Title:**

**1) Description of innovative program, project or item:** (Please include Instructional Goals and Objectives outcomes, duration and estimated number of students participating. )

**2) Needs/Rationale : Develop a rationale and need for the program/item. You may include any current educational research, trends in improvement of instruction, applicability toward Vision 2016 goals , state and national goals for education and/or the District 103 student learning outcomes which are applicable to your program.**

Links to Learning Grant Application Page 2

**3) How will you evaluate the success of this project? State who will evaluate the project and what qualitative and quantitative instruments will be used (i.e. surveys, interviews, logs, pre/post test, or data collections that will serve as documentation for your program/item). (The evaluation process is encouraged but not required to be submitted to the Links to Learning Committee this year.)**

**4) Additional comments that may help us to evaluate the application:** (Could you train others to use this technology or program? Would you use this item/program again?)

**5) Dollar amount requested (include** **all shipping and handling charges, postage and extras if applicable):**

**Past LTL Grants received (year and dollar amount) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**