

November 13, 2007

Patricia O'Brien, Executive Director
The Stocker Foundation
559 Broadway, 2nd Floor
Lorain, OH 44052

Dear Patricia O'Brien, Executive Director,

On behalf of the Oakwood Parent Teacher Organization (PTO), please accept our EDUCATION FOR FUTURE project grant proposal which is focused on the enhancement of educational services to children through cutting-edge technological resources.

Please find details of our project, along with required documents and proposal requirements attached.

If you desire any further information or clarification, please contact Cathryn Hennes at (440) 324-1921.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this proposal. We look forward to a collaborative relationship with The Stocker Foundation. We appreciate your consideration.

Sincerely,

Cathryn Hennes
President
Education for Future Project

Daniel Adams
Vice President
Education for Future Project

EDUCATION FOR FUTURE
The Stocker Foundation Grant Application
Submitted by Oakwood Elementary School Parent Teacher Organization
November 6, 2007

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The EDUCATION FOR FUTURE project is designed to promote educational opportunities of children in the home, school, and community through the use of cutting-edge technology. Each year, the children of this school are required to take and pass the Ohio Achievement Test (OAT). Starting in the third grade; students are assessed in the areas of reading/writing, math, science, and social studies. Those students are required to pass each component of their exam with a 75% or better to graduate to the next grade. In some cases, 50% of the children do not pass the exam the first time, requiring them to attend summer school and retake the exams.

The PTO would like to enhance the educational facilities of Oakwood Elementary School and provide additional opportunities for learning that are not already provided for in The Elyria Schools operating budget. Each year, these children prepare for the tests through tutoring and practice. By completing this project, we will provide the students with cutting-edge technology that will enhance their learning and energize them into taking pride in their learning objectives. By giving the children opportunities with technology in the classroom, not only will they become better learners, they will retain that knowledge for the future.

The Project Timeline:

The proposed timeline for the project is as follows:

Initiation of project	January 2008
Tutor Children and Administer Exam	January 2008 through May 2008
Purchase of SmartBoard	May 2008
Review of Test Results and Development of Tutoring Plan	June 2008 through November 2008
Tutor Children and Administer Exam	January 2008 through May 2009
Review of Test Results and Evaluation of Project	June 2009 through September 2009

The Project Budget:

Oakwood PTO Fundraising Goal	\$2,350
Elyria Schools Budget	\$42,750
Grant Contributions	\$3,036
TOTAL ANTICIPATED INCOME AND COST	\$45,786

NEED: EDUCATION FOR FUTURE

Tommy is an African-American boy in the fifth grade. As a resident of the state of Ohio, Tommy has to start taking and passing the Ohio Achievement Test (OAT) each year in grade three. Tommy took this exam in grade three and failed it the first time. In order for Tommy to pass, he entered and completed summer school to pass it, barely passing the exam with the necessary 75%. During fourth grade, the same result happened. He had to retake the exam and barely passed the exam with the necessary 75%. Tommy realized that he didn't want to take summer school again. He wanted to have his vacation free from school but didn't know how to pass his exam the first time. This year, in fifth grade, he will have four components to pass, Reading, Writing, Mathematics, and Social Studies.

Sarah is a White girl in the sixth grade. She is also a resident of the state of Ohio and in the same school with Tommy. She has passed the exam each year from third, fourth, and fifth grade with an 85%. Reaching her sixth grade year, she knew she had to pass the exam. Without passing the exam, she would be held back. This year, she has two components to pass, Reading and Mathematics. She will not be able to continue to middle school if she does not pass this exam.

For both of these children, education is their future. At the same time, pressure has been added to the children to pass these exams. Both children must pass their exams. Without passing the exam, their futures are in jeopardy. For Tommy, 50% of his classmates are not passing this exam. The range is from 35.7% for the Social Studies component of the exam to a 67.9% for the Reading component. For Sarah, the figure is 32% of her classmates not passing, with ranges from 68% to 69% for the Reading and Math components of the exam. For Tommy, his counterparts statewide rated a 57.9% for the Social Studies and an 80% for Reading. Sarah's counterparts statewide are rating a 74% for Math and 77% for Reading.

What this means for the children is that they are not retaining enough of what they are learning to pass these exams. The school system these children attend is listed based on its median income for the families as number 3 for low-income schools. A great majority of these children live in impoverished homes, with many brothers and sisters and parents who work multiple jobs to pay the bills. There just isn't enough time to help the children learn for the exams. In some cases, the parents do not know the material themselves to help the children study.

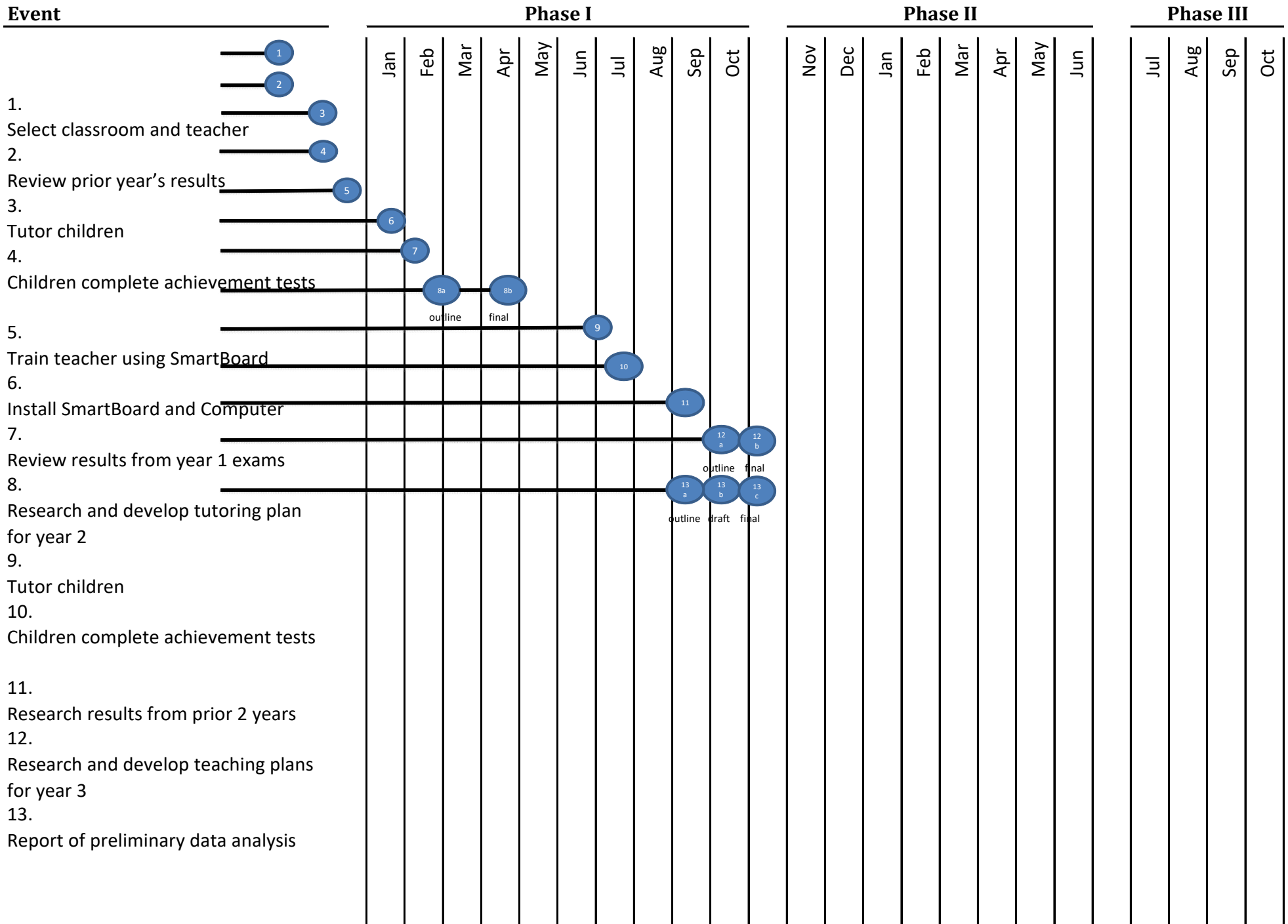
Over the past few years, the school has been experimenting with the use of interactive whiteboards, called SmartBoards, in the classrooms to assist with their learning. Based on the fact that the school is considered a low-income school, the use of the whiteboards has engaged

the children to become more responsible with their learning. Many of the children do not have computers in their homes, based on the median incomes of the families who comprise this school. Having technology in the classrooms, the student takes more responsibility toward meeting their goals of 75% for each component of the OAT. At the same time, the use of SmartBoards allows the students excitement toward their learning goals.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

1. Get the children excited and responsible for learning
 - a. Purchase SmartBoard Kit: SmartBoard Interactive Whiteboard and Computer with software
 - b. Install the SmartBoard in a classroom for the children to use
 - c. After school tutoring sessions for all grades, not just those who take the achievement tests
2. Train current staff in usage of SmartBoard technology
 - a. Teachers will learn new technology
 - b. Teachers will enable students to become more excited to learn with the use of technology to help them pass their exams

Plan of Action: Education for Future



EVALUATION PLAN

The Evaluation Plan for this proposal will be completed over the course of the entire project. In the beginning, the tutoring team will have the opportunity to review the prior year's Ohio Achievement Test Scores (Year 0). From the results of those exams, the team will determine the best plan for tutoring the children for Year 1's exams. The children in this school complete the exam components in May of Year 1, with the results being available in a few weeks of completion.

Based on our Plan of Action, during the summer, between Year 1 and Year 2, the tutoring team will review test scores from Year 1's exams. The school will determine which teacher will receive the new SmartBoard, have the board installed in the classroom, and teacher will be taught how to use the SmartBoard. At the same time, the tutoring team will receive information regarding which areas, or components, the students are lacking, and possibly failing during the exam. After making a determination of what areas need concentration, a new development plan will be completed for tutoring the children who take the exams for Year 2.

Again, during the summer, between Year 2 and Year 3, the tutoring team will review the test scores for Year 2's exams. The team will follow the same process they completed during the Year 1 to Year 2 examination to determine the best route for tutoring for Year 3's exams. They will then tutor the children and prepare them for Year 3's exams.

At the end of Year 3, an overall review of the test scores will be completed. A full, comprehensive report will be generated with the results of all years. The team will take into consideration of what worked well with teaching the children and what did not work as well.

The goal of this project is to help all the children to pass the Ohio Achievement Tests, all components, for grades 3 through 6, who will receive a passing score of 75% or higher. Each year, the tutoring team will be given an opportunity to review the test scores and adjust their tutoring plans based on the results from that year's exams.

BUDGET: EDUCATION FOR FUTURE

Budget line items List personnel and then non-personnel * (asterisk) administrative overhead items	Total proposed budget (Column A)	Amount requested from The Stocker Foundation (Column B)	Amount committed to project by other funders (Column C)	Amount budgeted from your agency toward project (Column D)	Amount remaining to be raised Column A- Columns (B+C+D)
Review Year 0 Test Scores ¹	\$1,800	0	\$1,800	0	0
Tutor Children – Year 1 ¹	\$16,200	0	\$16,200	0	0
SmartBoard Purchase, Installation, and Teacher Training ²	\$4,586	\$2,586	0	\$2,000	0
Review Year 1 Test Scores ¹	\$1,800	0	\$1,800	0	0
Research and Develop Year 2 Tutoring Plan ¹	\$1,800	0	\$1,800	0	0
Tutor Children - Year 2 ¹	\$16,200	0	\$16,200	0	0
Review Year 2 Test Scores ¹	\$1,800	0	\$1,800	0	0
Report of Data ³	\$850	\$450	0	\$350	0
<i>*Total Administrative⁴</i>	\$750	0	\$750	0	0
TOTAL	\$45,786	\$3,036	\$42,750	\$2,350	0

BUDGET NARRATIVE

1. The costs associated with teaching these children, reviewing the test scores, tutoring, and developing tutoring plans will be paid through the Elyria School's budget. Even though they are part of this program, they will not be paid for through this proposal.
 - a. Reviewing Test Scores: 12 teachers at \$15 per hour for 10 hours is \$1,800. This will be completed 3 times for \$5,400.
 - b. Tutoring: 12 teachers at \$15 per hour for 7.5 hours a week for 12 weeks is \$16,200. This will be completed 2 times for \$32,400.
 - c. Development of Tutoring Plans: 12 teachers at \$15 per hour for 10 hours is \$1,800. This will occur 1 time.
2. The SmartBoard purchase is a group charge. Three tasks will be completed with this budget amount:
 - a. Purchase of the SmartBoard and computer to run the board.
 - b. Installation of the SmartBoard into the classroom by an approved installer.
 - c. Training of the teacher who will receive the board for their classroom's use.
3. The report of data cost includes the time the tutoring staff will need to process all test score results, creating the narratives for the evaluation report, and producing the final deliverables.
4. Administration costs associated with this proposal include the following:
 - a. Bus/bus driver salary for children who ride the bus to school. Children staying after school, who ride the bus, need transportation home. This cost is also handled by the Elyria School's budget is 1 bus driver for 5 hours a week at 12.50 an hour for 12 weeks is \$750.
 - b. The management of the grant will be handled by the President of the PTO. This management will be an in-kind donation of time and services.