

D6 MINI INNOVATION GRANT

Central Point School District has set aside approximately \$5000 per school in the form of mini grants with the hope of increasing efficiency and key instructional areas. Instructional targets of personalization, persistence, and purpose have been included as focal areas along with a financial focus of productivity. This is a pilot program and undoubtedly will need adjustments as it gets established. If the pilot is successful, hopefully funding can be increased in the following year. An initial screening will be completed by the district office and resulting eligible grants will be passed on to buildings for determining final awards. **Please contact todd.bennett@district6.org if you have any questions or would like feedback on developing your idea to meet grant criteria.**

To apply for a grant, please complete the following:

1. Respond to **at least one** of the first 3 P's in any way you want including but not limited to narratives, graphs, pictures, comics, doodles, etc.
2. Respond to the last P on Productivity.
3. Provide a tentative budget for up to \$5000. School size may be taken into consideration on award amounts.
4. Turn your application into your building principal **by 10/31/16**.

Personalization

People are not all the same and there is more than one way to succeed.

International advisor on education, author, and professor Ken Robinson frequently points out that human beings are organic and therefore all different. Brain research from the University of British Columbia reveals that EVERY experience a person has literally changes the brain and Gallup's research on individual strengths finds no magic strength set among great leaders. Clearly it is important to have personalization strategies to maximize each student's learning given these differences in individuals. Some examples include GLAD strategies that address multiple intelligences or Rick Wormeli's suggestions on allowing students to choose their own artifacts to demonstrate meeting a set of standards. **How will your proposal personalize education for your students?**

Purpose

Answering the question "why?"

In his best selling book *Drive*, Daniel Pink summarizes scientific research in relation to motivation as being the effect of autonomy, purpose, and mastery. As the keynote speaker to the ASCD International Education conference, Pink states that educators spend too much time on "what" and not enough time on "why." Further, the recent award winning documentary on education, *Most Likely to Succeed* studied schools across the United States believed to be best providing the education needed for the future and found a "strong sense of purpose" among students to be common among all. **How will your proposal develop purpose for your students?**

Persistence

Overcoming the primary obstacles one at a time and self-celebrating the results.

Gallup, Hattie, Dweck, and Pink all make reference to what some call “mind sets.” The desire and confidence to accomplish something according to each of these bodies of research trumps all other factors in educational success. Ultimately, boiling each of these down to the simplest terms indicates that being able to overcome the primary obstacles one at a time defines persistence. Many believe that this is a trait that can’t be taught but evidence is to the contrary. In fact, recent Hattie research indicates that the teacher’s persistence is even more important than the students. Brain research indicates that the experience of accomplishing something feeds dopamine levels in an individual and makes them want to accomplish more. Therefore, providing students with appropriate struggle, facilitating feedback to overcome a specific obstacle, and encouraging them to be proud of that accomplishment will eventually establish the trait of persistence. **How will your proposal develop the trait of persistence in your students?**

Productivity

Working smarter not harder.

According to Google Dictionary, productivity can be defined as “the effectiveness of productive effort, especially in industry, as measured in terms of the rate of output per unit of input.” Central Point School District’s demographics are not optimal for the state’s funding formula. In fact, we average about \$1000 less per student over time than the state. Most our schools are about 500 students so that’s half a million dollars less being spent in your building than the typical school in Oregon. This means we have to be especially productive with our funds. One of the primary purposes of this grant is to flush out innovations in productivity. Robyn Jackson suggests to eliminate, automate, or delegate (back to kids). For example, can copies or purchased materials be eliminated by accessing free ones? Can something you do be automated with technology or a process? Also, remember we get paid per student. In 2014, we lost 397 students in our district to charters and home school programs. At \$7300 per student, that’s approaching three million in lost revenue. Can your project attract some of them back? **How will your project be sustainable and increase our productivity?**

Budget

Please include an estimate of all expensed needed to implement your project including but not limited to professional development, sub time, equipment, and materials. To further support the goal of increased productivity, **include an estimated return on investment analysis.** For example, if you purchase \$5000 worth of lap tops, how much paper and purchased curriculum will that save over the next five years?