**Grant Application Form**

**Spring 2020**

(Please see Request for Proposals)

Please type.

Applicant: Zachary Rowe

Grant Title: Touring History and the World with Google Expeditions

I grant the Fort Thomas Education Foundation, Inc., the right to use this proposal and the results of this project, if funded, for public information purposes or to help educate others.

Signature of Applicant: Zachary T. Rowe Date: December 17th, 2019

***Please submit completed applications to FTEF (ftef@ftef.org) and your principal by***

***Thursday, December 19th, 2019.***

* ~~Submit Google Form online~~
* ~~Receive confirmation email with this form~~
* ~~Submit completed forms to Fort Thomas Education Foundation (ftef@ftef.org) and copy your building principal by 12/19/19.~~
* Superintendent review
* Fort Thomas Education Foundation’s Teacher Grant Committee review

**A. RATIONALE**

* What classroom/student need, problem, or opportunity does this project address?

Google Expeditions allow students to virtually experience places and topics in social studies, science, as well as other applications in encore courses to places that are otherwise inaccessible. As a social studies teacher, we will be able to travel to the construction of the Great Pyramids at Giza, the Great Wall of China, and even the celebratory games in the Roman Coliseum. Additionally, science teachers can lead students on a tour of the circulatory system, foreign language teachers can visit their respective countries, novel settings can be visited in language arts, and even the art teachers can take student on a tour of the Louvre in Paris, France. Students will also be able to lead multi-dimensional tours they create in many historical and diverse cultural settings.

* Is this a new initiative or an expansion of an existing project? ~~~~New Existing project

This is a new initiative within Highlands Middle School, although we have visited the Highlands High School Library to use their VR sets. Having a set out our disposal will increase the availability and frequency of these experiences.

* Is this an after-school or summer enrichment program? Yes ~~~~No

The cart would be used by individual classes during school hours to introduce, enhance, and supplement course content.

* Approximately how many students will be affected by this project?

The Google Expeditions kit may allow for 30 students to participate simultaneously. While I know all 6th grade students will use the kits in social studies courses throughout the year, the social studies and science departments in the middle school have desire for access to this technology and a significant portion of our students in grades 6-8 will benefit from the kits.

* Have you applied for funding through other channels (example, PTO) before submitting request to the FTEF? Yes ~~~~No

I have not applied for funding through other channels for this project.

**B. PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

* What is the goal of this project? Please include specific desired outcomes and a general implementation schedule.

The goal of this project is to provide students with a visually immersive experience to support and reinforce classroom learning. Visual and auditory learners will especially benefit from a virtual tour, as will students who tend to struggle recalling course content usually presented in text formats. Cues and references back to the virtual experience during assessments will help those students recall information based on an experience, far beyond understanding gained from less technological visual aids or graphic organizers. The tours will be implemented at least one full period per social studies unit as a full tour lasts approximately 45 minutes. Brief tours may also be scheduled throughout units to supplement specific topics in social studies, science, foreign language, engineering, art, and other encore courses.

* Who will be involved in this project (please specify teachers, administrators, and/or central office staff)? What are their responsibilities?

Mr. Zach Rowe, Mrs. Amy Klepeisz, and Mr. Rick Rafferty have the knowledge and experience in guiding tours to HMS students. Mr. Jason Gay will serve as a liaison to facilitate best practice and troubleshooting. Our responsibilities will be to maintain the cleanliness and function of the VR sets, ensure they are charged, and assist in training and/or setting up tour opportunities for our colleagues. Mrs. Stephanie Griffith will store the Google Expeditions cart in the HMS Library and assist in scheduling classes that wish to use the devices. Technology staff will facilitate the installation of the stationary technology, such as the router.

**C. EVALUATION**

* Describe specific means of evaluation for each objective as well as the goal of the project. Will outcomes be measured?

Evaluation of the goals will take placed in common unit assessments. Students will also be asked to respond to written prompts connecting their experiences of the tour to course content received in the classroom.

**D. BUDGET**

* Will you consider accepting a partial grant if full funding is unavailable? How would you supplement or scale back the project? ~~~~Yes No

If full funding is unavailable, Google Expeditions via Best Buy does offer smaller packages and we would scale back the project by purchasing several smaller VR sets in phases over the next few years.

Please provide a detailed budget for your project, including materials and equipment needed, sources, and costs. If your request includes an amount for stipends or ESS compensation for certified staff, include it here.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Item | Supplier | Budget Amount |
|  Google Expeditions XR (AR & VR) 30 User Kit, Cart, and Router | Best Buy | $14,899.99 (Quote expires 1/16/2020) |
|  |  |  |
|   |   |   |
|   |  Total Request |  $14,899.99  |

**E. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

* Any additional information that you feel will help in the decision-making process.

Exploration of class content and the products created by students that may be viewed using the Google Expeditions kits will be used as student artifacts that serve as evidence of skills and growth that embody the Fort Thomas Independent Schools *Portrait of a Graduate* vision, especially *Curious Critical Thinker* and *Global Communicator.*

~~~~I verify the information included is correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: Zachary T. Rowe Date: December 17th, 2019

**ACTIONS TAKEN BY REVIEW PROCESS**

Date received by Principal:

Recommended or Not Recommended

Comments:

Date Received by Superintendent:

Recommended or Not Recommended

Comments:

Date Received by FTEF Grant Committee:

Recommended or Not Recommended

Comments:

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Thank you for your submission. Your commitment to academic excellence is our most valuable resource. – *The Fort Thomas Education Foundation*