

**Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund
2015 Request for Proposals (RFP)**

Project Title:

ENRTF ID: 079-C

Community and Field-Based Environmental Learning Model

Category: C. Environmental Education

Total Project Budget: \$ 388,274

Proposed Project Time Period for the Funding Requested: 2 years, July 2015 - June 2017

Summary:

The School of Environmental Studies (SES) will enhance authentic, real-world, curricular experiences in environmental education for 12th grade students at SES and with surrounding metropolitan 12th grade students.

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Sponsoring Organization: School of Environmental Studies

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Location

Region: Metro

County Name: Dakota

City / Township: Apple Valley

Alternate Text for Visual:

School of Environmental Studies

_____ Funding Priorities	_____ Multiple Benefits	_____ Outcomes	_____ Knowledge Base
_____ Extent of Impact	_____ Innovation	_____ Scientific/Tech Basis	_____ Urgency
_____ Capacity Readiness	_____ Leverage	_____ TOTAL	



PROJECT TITLE: Community and Field-Based Environmental Learning Model

I. PROJECT STATEMENT

1. This model of environmental education (EE) is needed to continue to increase the effectiveness of EE by blending increased fieldwork with distance learning models centered on inquiry. The educational model will be designed to get students into the environments under study while involving them in engaging environmental work with appropriate professionals in the field.
2. **Goal:** To modify and enhance a model for delivering environmental education that incorporates authentic fieldwork with 21st century learning technology in collaboration with community partners..
 - o Outcomes: Participating high school seniors of ISD 196 along with other metro-area seniors will:
 - develop knowledge, skills and experiences related to the concepts of biodiversity, energy systems, and sustainable living.
 - use authentic research processes to design activities to collect and interpret data in the field.
 - apply these learnings in the community by carrying out environmental stewardship activities.
3. We will modify the innovative and effective School of Environmental Studies curriculum by extending it into the community and preparing it for use by environmental education facilitators across the state. Through the use of fieldwork, authentic research, distance learning and direct instruction this model will provide teachers with the framework and resources to implement important environmental studies in the community.

II. PROJECT ACTIVITIES AND OUTCOMES

Activity 1: Program Design

Budget: \$16,920.27

Using existing curriculum we will enhance and refine the current model of fieldwork to further support and allow for effective use of student time spent in the field, online, and in the classroom. This phase will also include Identification and selection of material best presented online as well as the modification of existing inquiry practices to fit the model.

Outcome	Completion Date
<i>1. Logistics framework for students and faculty will be developed to accommodate schedules, curricular themes, and coordination with partners</i>	<i>July 31, 2015</i>
<i>2. Fieldwork and distance learning protocols will be modified and tested</i>	<i>August 15, 2015</i>
<i>3. Existing SES curricular themes and resources will be integrated into the newly designed delivery and student engagement models</i>	<i>August 31, 2015</i>

Activity 2: Student recruitment and community partnership development

Budget: \$16,920.27

Recruit students to the program through tasks related to promotion, clarification, selection and notification. Community partnerships and projects are finalized. During this phase the participant community will be supported with opportunities to meet and develop identity.

Outcome	Completion Date
<i>1. Program is announced and promoted to SES and metro area students.</i>	<i>January 15, 2015</i>
<i>2. Students will be selected, scheduled, and program orientation completed</i>	<i>August 31, 2015</i>
<i>3. Projects specific to each trimester to be finalized with appropriate community partners.</i>	<i>August 15, 2015</i>

Activity 3: Implementation of model design

Budget: \$345,905.45



Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF)

2015 Main Proposal

Project Title: Community and Field-Based Environmental Learning Model

The designed curriculum model will be implemented to apply the themes of biodiversity, energy systems, and sustainable living to the design features of fieldwork, distance learning and direct instruction. Partner assessments collected via survey + interview. This is the two-year implementation of the program. Modifications during this period include preparation of the model to be transportable.

Outcome	Completion Date All dates 2015 & 2016
<i>1. Student performance on biodiversity final assessment collected and analyzed</i>	<i>November 30</i>
<i>2. Relevant partner assessment of impact and effectiveness of biodiversity theme collected)</i>	<i>December 15</i>
<i>3. Student performance on energy systems final assessment collected and analyzed</i>	<i>March 30</i>
<i>4. Relevant partner assessment of impact and effectiveness of energy theme collected</i>	<i>April 15</i>
<i>5. Student performance on sustainability final assessment collected and analyzed</i>	<i>May 15</i>
<i>6. Relevant partner assessment of impact and effectiveness of sustainability theme collected</i>	<i>June 15</i>

III. PROJECT STRATEGY

A. Project Team/Partners

Name	Affiliation	Role
Carol Strecker	Minnesota Zoo	Authentic content and location support
Courtland Nelson	DNR- MN State Parks	Authentic content and location support
Steve Sullivan	Dakota County Parks	Authentic content and location support
Mark Cleveland	SNA Statewide Management Coord	Authentic content and location support
Mary Hammond-Rolland	City of Apple Valley, Mayor	Authentic content and location support
Nicole Rom	Will Steger Foundation	Authentic content and location support

B. Project Impact and Long-Term Strategy

It is our intent to use the grant money to launch this project and support its two-year implementation. During the implementation students will benefit from a more effective learning setting for environmental studies and community partners will gain through data collected and additional experiences with students and staff. Beyond the implementation phase the project will provide lifelong environmental literacy in the participants and tangible positive impacts in the community through environmental service learning projects completed with environmental community partners. Our intent is that the model becomes self-sustaining for SES and ISD 196. Additionally, the model will be available for dissemination to other educators to support its application to their setting.

C. Timeline Requirements

Fall, 2014-Based on LCCMR recommendation and pending legislative approval, work will begin to promote the program, develop an application and selection process for participants, and meet with partners regarding potential field experiences.

July 15-30, 2015-Design of field experiences and integration of SES curriculum into the new model is completed.

September, 2015-June, 2016-Community/Field Based Environmental Learning Model is implemented.

Summer, 2016-Follow up meetings with partners and program modifications are completed.

September, 2016 – June, 2017- Second year of program implementation.

2015 Detailed Project Budget

Project Title: Community and Field-Based Environmental Learning Model

IV. TOTAL ENRTF REQUEST BUDGET 2 years

BUDGET ITEM	AMOUNT
Personnel: Teacher/designer - Craig Johnson 100% FTE at \$88,928 per year for two years. Salary 84.4% Benefits 15.5%	\$ 177,856
Brad Johnson Teacher/designer 100% FTE at \$97,195 per year for two years. Salary 84.4% Benefits 15.6%	194,390
Travel: 6 School busses per year for two years for student transportation	\$ 7,500
Additional Budget Items: 2 weeks of meetings with partners and stakeholders. 2 staff x 2 years x 80 hours x \$25/ hour plus benefits at 6.6%	\$ 8,528
TOTAL ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND \$ REQUEST =	\$ 388,274

V. OTHER FUNDS *(This entire section must be filled out. Do not delete rows. Indicate "N/A" if row is not applicable.)*

SOURCE OF FUNDS	AMOUNT	Status
Other Non-State \$ To Be Applied To Project During Project Period: N/A	\$ -	<i>Indicate: Secured or Pending</i>
Other State \$ To Be Applied To Project During Project Period: N/A	\$ -	<i>Indicate: Secured or Pending</i>
In-kind Services To Be Applied To Project During Project Period: <i>Aministrative costs \$15,660 , school van usage \$6,000, curricular materials for students \$5000</i>	\$ 26,660	<i>Secured</i>
Funding History: N/A	\$ -	
Remaining \$ From Current ENRTF Appropriation: N/A	\$ -	<i>Indicate: Unspent? Legally Obligated? Other?</i>



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Dan Bodette - dan.bodette@district196.org

Education

Ed.D - Doctor of Education
Educational Administration
1998 - University of Minnesota

M.S. - Master of Science
Educational Administration
1987 - University of Wisconsin

B.S. - Bachelor of Science
Biology
1980 - University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point

Experience

September, 1994 to Present - I will be here next school year
High School Principal - School of Environmental Studies
Independent School District 196
Apple Valley, MN

Job description - includes every aspect of being a high school principal for a school that receives national/international attention. Responsibilities include curriculum development, AP monitoring/implementation, school discipline, program overview, and all duties assigned by the school superintendent.

July, 1990 – August, 1994
High School Principal - Prescott High School
Prescott School District
Prescott, WI

Job description - included every aspect of being a high school principal as identified above.

Experiences Facilitating and

Smaller Learning Communities (SLC) Facilitator (summer 10) and reviewer the past two cycles.