

***APPLICATION DEADLINE: Friday, March 13, 2009 at 5:00 pm**

BROOKLINE EDUCATION FOUNDATION
Combined Grant Application for 2009-2010 Academic Year
Cover Page

APPLICATION MUST BE TYPED

Type of Grant (check one): Teacher Grant Collaborative Grant X

Are you applying for the Charlie Baker Legacy Award? yes no X
(Please see the Call for Proposals for a complete description of this funding opportunity.)

Project Title

Making Learning Visible at Heath School

Project Leader(s)/Organizer(s)

Is this person responsible for reporting to the BEF? X yes no
If not, please state who will be the Contact Person:

Name: Rachel Hayashi School: Heath Grade(s): 7/8

Home Telephone: 617.630.0129 E-mail address: rachel_hayashi@brookline.k12.ma.us

Position/Department/Teaching Area(s): English Language Arts teacher 7/8

Years teaching in Brookline: 15 Years teaching: 25

Name: Aaron Levy School: Heath Grade(s): 7/8

Home Telephone: 508.596.6782 E-mail address: aaron_levy@brookline.k12.ma.us

Position/Department/Teaching Area(s): Special Education teacher 7/8

Years teaching in Brookline: 4 Years teaching: 5

For additional Participants: attach sheet with name, school, telephone, e-mail address, grade(s), and department. For Collaborative Grants, this would be a group of teachers (e.g. all 7/8 math teachers).

For Teacher Grants Only: Have any of the applicants ever applied for a Brookline Education Foundation grant?
yes no

If project was funded, was it individual or group? Year of project

Project Period September 1, 2009 – June 1, 2010

Amount Requested \$2250.00

Acknowledgement of Project Leaders:

Date: 3.13.09

I/We understand that, should the Brookline Education Foundation fund my/our grant application, I/we am/are obligated to submit a written evaluation of my/our project at its completion. Evaluations of projects completed during the summer will be due by December 31, 2009. Evaluations of projects completed during the school year will be due by May 31, 2010. I/We further understand that only educators employed by the Brookline Public Schools at the time the project is undertaken are eligible to receive funds.

For online submissions, please acknowledge that you have read and agreed to the above statement. X

BROOKLINE EDUCATION FOUNDATION
Combined Grant Application for 2009-2010 Academic Year
Project Description Section

1. Project Summary (1-3 sentences)

The Heath Making Learning Visible group, started in 07-08, wants to continue the professional discussions and curriculum development regarding: democracy in our classrooms, group based learning and group dynamics in our classrooms, and the meaning of equity in classrooms and school. We need time and structure with an expert in Making Learning Visible to facilitate our discussions. We would like to hire the Project Zero Making Learning Visible project leader Mara Kreschevsky for that purpose.

2. Goal Statement

We have found this year that, while we have more common MLV background and interests, we don't have the time for deep, focused discussion. Through this grant, we will:

- have time to share curriculum and develop it further.
- collaborate along vertical lines of K-8.

3. Context

a. Is this a new project or does it build upon ongoing work that you or others have undertaken? If it is ongoing, what is new in this proposal?

In our previous work, we introduced twelve Heath educators to the concepts and practices of the MLV project. Since that time, many of us have created new curriculum, developed new practices, and generated questions and ideas. We now want to explore those with one another in highly structured discussions to deepen our work.

b. How have the education, training, and/or classroom experiences of the applicant(s) or participants prompted the interest or need for this project?

While we have a pre-K through 8th grade group that has been focusing on questions of individual and group learning, democracy in the classroom, and documentation as a means of making learning visible, we have not had the time or structure to explore these questions together. While pairs of us may meet formally or informally, we are not able to make use of our collective knowledge regarding our growth in curriculum development, instruction, or student improvement. Our frustration has led to the interest in formalizing our continuing work on this project.

For example,

- a subset of us attend a monthly meeting of volunteers at Project Zero, but we do not have a structure at Heath for sharing that learning.
- a subset of us has been working with technology, making learning visible through websites, blogs, and wikis, yet, again, we do not have a structure at Heath for sharing that learning.
- we have ongoing questions regarding the differences between bulletin boards as display and bulletin boards as documentation of student and/or group (including adults) learning: What are the differences for teachers? Students? Parents? Community members?

4. Project Description

Please describe the activities of the project in sufficient detail for the reviewer to understand what will be done, by whom, when (include timeline, if appropriate), how, where, etc. You may include copies of supporting material (e.g., conference brochure, tour itinerary).

We want to have five 2-hour after-school meetings during the 09-10 school year; our grant money would pay for 15 hours of preparation and facilitation for the Making Learning Visible expert, Mara Kreschevsky. Teachers would attend on a voluntary basis.

BROOKLINE EDUCATION FOUNDATION
Combined Grant Application for 2009-2010 Academic Year
Collaborative Grants Supplement

TEACHER GRANT APPLICANTS – PLEASE OMIT THIS SECTION & GO DIRECTLY TO BUDGET

1. Need

a. Why is this project needed?

We need to enable a group of teachers to be learners and to enrich our own practices surrounding MLV. Since this group has begun at Heath, many of us have implemented various aspects of the MLV project and in many of these efforts there has been success. Though we have met previously, we are looking for time to meet to discuss and share these ideas further. As of now, we have no forum to investigate our different projects and to develop a richer understanding of how to better serve the students' needs. Constructive times to internalize what others have tried, and to collaborate on ideas are much needed. We feel as though learning at Heath is more visible to us as teachers but we are still struggling to increase students "seeing" their own learning.

Some of the projects with which individual teachers/classes have experimented include the following:

- bulletin board about a sixth grade service project that included student reflection.
- connecting key vocabulary words with string in an interactive public display.
- an Inquiry Based Science project that allowed for student reflection in regards to their own classroom behavior during science. The class used images and video of scientists working to deepen their own understanding.
- bulletin board documenting various stages of student understanding for five themes in the novel Of Mice and Men. The display documented their growth in writing skills and ability to comprehend theme.
- blogs and wikis documenting entire units or projects.

Time to deepen understanding about these (and many more) innovations in our curriculum is essential.

b. What is the relationship of the project to the Systemwide Goals?

We are always looking to find ways to make our teaching equitable for all learners. The concepts and ideas of MLV allow teachers to strengthen their practice and reflect on their measurable goals and intended outcomes. This project is closely aligned with Brookline Public Schools' Systemwide Goals. The focus of our research is individual and group learning, which leads towards Excellence in Teaching and High Academic Achievement. Collaborative Relationships and Respecting Differences are embedded in the nature of the Making Learning Visible research.

2. Personnel

a. Who in the Brookline Schools is responsible and accountable for project activities?

- Rachel Hayashi
- Aaron Levy

b. Will the project require additional personnel or reassignment of current staff?

- Mara Kreschevsky from Project Zero at the School of Education at Harvard University

3. Outcomes and Impact

a. Please list specific measurable results that you expect to realize at the completion of the project.

- Use of documentation to increase student learning
- Sustainability of our existing school based group
- Increased participant skill in documenting student learning
- Quality of adult discussions
- Greater collaboration on ideas surrounding MLV

- b. *What resources are required to ensure that these outcome measurements can be collected and analyzed? Are these expenses included in your budget? Yes*
- Mara Kreschevsky.
 - Technology: digital cameras, digital video cameras; printers; laptops (all these items are already at Heath)
 - time to meet

c. *What do you expect to be the impact on your professional growth?*

We read and hear about 21st Century literacy and education, yet exactly what that means remains vague. As we grapple with this concept, reflecting collaboratively upon documentation, especially documentation involving technology, we will grow and therefore have a greater impact on our students' learning.

4. Evaluation and Dissemination

Describe how you plan to share the results of your project with colleagues and community groups. This might include: sharing materials you create, creating a web page, presenting at a professional meeting, writing an article for the school newsletter or the TAB, displaying student work, photos, or videos at your school.

Documentation is essential and taking the documentation and making it into a display is a large aspect of MLV. As a group, we push each other to make our learning public and share what has been taught as well as what has been learned. Most of the members of the group already use webpages, blogs, create movies, and display work in public spaces. By having these meetings, the group will continue to think about and actually share this public work.

5. Multi-year projects *If this application is part of a multi-year project, please put this application in context.*

a. *How does this year build on what was accomplished in preceding years?*

NA

b. *What are the plans and anticipated budget for future years?*

Administrative Approval Collaborative Grants should be aligned with Systemwide Goals (and curricular frameworks and learning expectations where appropriate and be approved by a principal, headmaster, or curriculum coordinator.

I have read this application and find that it is suitable and consistent with Systemwide and Curricular Goals.

Date

Print Name & Title:

BROOKLINE EDUCATION FOUNDATION
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 Budget and Finances Section
 To Be Completed by All Applicants

Budget *Please provide a detailed budget. Be as specific as possible.*

Expense	Purpose	Cost
A. Stipends (BPS rate)		\$0
B. Consultant (include name and rate)	Mara Kreschevsky \$150 / hour x 15 hours =	\$2250
C. Materials and Supplies		\$0
D. Travel		\$0
E. Conference Fee		\$0
F. Other		\$0
G. Substitutes (please indicate days/hours needed; might be part of total cost)		\$0
TOTAL		\$ 2250.00

Finances

a. *Will there be additional funding from other sources? Please describe.*

No

b. *Are resources needed to continue the work of the project after the Foundation funding ends? If yes, please describe how these resources will be obtained. If no, please describe how the work of the project will be funded or continued after completion of funding by the Brookline Education Foundation.*

c. *Do you foresee any potential challenges /obstacles and, if so, what is your strategy for dealing with them should they occur?*

d. *Will you be able to complete the project if only partial funding is available? X Yes No*

If only partial funding is available, would you be able to redesign the project? X Yes No

Please explain:

We would have fewer meetings and less time with Mara Kreschevsky leading our group.

e. *If you are applying for the **Charlie Baker Legacy Award**, please indicate how the additional \$1,000 would extend and/or enrich your project.*

For additional Participants: attach sheet with name, school, telephone, e-mail address, grade(s), department. For Collaborative Grants, this would be a group of teachers (e.g. all 7/8 math teachers).

3rd Leader:

Name: School: Heath Grade(s):

Home Telephone: E-mail address:

Position/Department/Teaching Area(s):

Years teaching in Brookline: Years teaching:

Additional Participants:

name	school	telephone	e-mail address	grade(s)	department
Sally Dean	Heath School	617-879-4570	sally_dean@brookline.k12.ma.us	Vice Principal and 7/8	French
Vanessa Oulette	Heath School	617-879-4570	vanessa_oulette@brookline.k12.ma.us	5	
Scott Wilson	Heath School	617-879-4570	scott_wilson@brookline.k12.ma.us	7/8	Special Education
Andrew Cook	Heath School	617-879-4570	andrew_cook@brookline.k12.ma.us	7/8	Social Studies
Matt Durant	Heath School	617-879-4570	matt_durant@brookline.k12.ma.us	K-8	Technology
Bob Miller	Heath School	617-879-4570	bob_miller@brookline.k12.ma.us	6	Math and Science
Jillian Hansbury	Heath School	617-879-4570	Jillian_hansbury@brookline.k12.ma.us	2	Special Education
Sarah Pangburn	Heath School	617-879-4570	Sarah_Pangburn@brookline.k12.ma.us	6	English and Social Studies
Maggie Beneke	Heath School	617-879-4570	Maggie_Beneke@brookline.k12.ma.us	2	
Jill Samuels	Heath School	617-879-4570	Jill_Samuels@brookline.k12.ma.us	4	
Margot Fox	Heath School	617-879-4570	Margot_Fox@brookline.k12.ma.us	K	
Mark Goldner	Heath School	617-879-4570	mark_goldner@brookline.k12.ma.us	7/8	Science
Min-Jen Wu Taylor	Heath School	617-879-4570	Min-jen_wu@brookline.k12.ma.us	Pre-K	