

2017 Quality Improvement Grant Application

Program Need and Vision

It is the vision of Marion County Public Schools to increase family and community involvement in all of our elementary schools. In order to carry out this vision, we are requesting a quality improvement grant in the category of family and community engagement. One way we are accomplishing family and community engagement in our district is through the Born Learning Academy. In the spring of 2016, Glasscock Elementary applied for and received a Born Learning grant. The Born Learning Academy at Glasscock Elementary held its first session in September 2016. With an average attendance of 50 adults and children at each session, the Born Learning Academy at Glasscock Elementary has been able to address school readiness through the series of workshops that are free for parents and caregivers of children from birth to age 5. Topics include, building relationships, building your child's language skills, nutrition and health, how children learn, and routines and learning on the go. The feedback from those attending the workshops remained positive throughout the year. The excitement of the Born Learning Academy at Glasscock Elementary has traveled through our community. As a result, two additional elementary schools applied for and have received Born Learning grants beginning the 2017-2018 school year. Our district will be bringing the Born Learning Academy to the families in the Lebanon Elementary and West Marion Elementary school districts.

With the 2017 quality improvement grant, our district would be able to support the implementation of the Born Learning Academy and other family and community involvement activities at all four of our elementary schools. Our vision in our community is to provide all families with the opportunity to give their children the skills necessary to be successful when they start school. Focusing on school readiness through partnerships throughout our community, we are taking steps to provide those opportunities and the information to all parents.

Action Plan

The quality improvement grant would allow our district to support a district wide family and community engagement initiative. With funds from the grant, we could provide a facilitator for each community and family engagement events, provide meals for families attending the events, and purchase the curriculum needed to provide information and resources. We will use our family and community engagement events to reach out to our community to continue to build new relationships and grow existing relationships with our day care centers, private school, Head Start, local hospital, public library, health department, and family resource centers. The new KY All STARS rating system for public preschools includes a component that focuses on family and community engagement. Through funds from the

quality improvement grant, we can ensure all school communities in Marion County will have the opportunity to attend these events.

Budget and Justification

Item	Justification/Explanation	Amount	Source of Funding
Facilitator/Guest Speakers	Individual to facilitate workshops at family and community events	\$2000	Grant funds
Readiness Materials for Parents/Workshop event materials/instructional resources for instructor (District Sites)	Provide research materials to parents at community events for parents and caregivers	\$7,000	Grant funds
Curriculum (District Sites)	Curriculum to provide resources for family and community events	\$6000	Grant funds
Facility	Facility to hold events for community and families	In kind	District
Staff	Staff volunteering time to work events	In kind	District
Food	Meals provided to families attending events	In kind	District
Total		\$15,000	Grant funds