

Franklin-Simpson Educational Excellence Foundation, Inc.

GRANT APPLICATION COVER PAGE

Application must be typed. If you experience difficulty completing, please contact our office at 270-586-8018 or email fseducationalexcellence@gmail.com. Completed applications should be submitted via email to fseducationalexcellence@gmail.com in PDF form. Application deadlines are outlined below.

Applicant Name & Position: Michael Barnum (Principal) and Josh Tucker (Assistant Principal)

School/Organization Involved: Simpson Elementary School

Amount Requested: \$4,000

Purpose of Funding: To aid in the upgrading of our playground equipment

Targeted Grade Levels: PreK-K 1-3 4-5 6-8 9-12 Other: _____

Number of Students/Persons Affected by Grant: 635-665 per year

Academic Area: Reading Language Arts Social Studies Math
Science Fine arts Community Other: Physical Education/Special Education

Brief Summary of Project (2 - 3 Sentences):

Our current playground equipment is over 12 years old, and our PTO is working to make an investment in the playground to have a lasting impact for the students of Simpson County Schools. We are looking to also invest in inclusive equipment that our special needs students can easily use without being taken out of their wheelchair. In addition, some of the equipment serves a musical function and be used by multiple students at once.

Address of School/Organization: 721 Witt Road, Franklin, KY 42134

Contact Person: Michael Barnum or Josh Tucker

Phone: (Day & Evening) 270-586-4414 or 270-776-5811 **Fax:** 270-598-6059

E-Mail: Michael.barnum@simpson.kyschools.us or josh.tucker@simpson.kyschools.us

Grant Cycle Submitted: Feb. April Sept. Nov.

Required Signatures

Simpson County Schools:

Principal/Supervisor  **Date** 3/13/19

Superintendent _____ **Date** _____

Community Organizations:

Grant Preparer _____ **Title** _____ **Date** _____

Board Representative _____ **Title** _____ **Date** _____

The mission at Simpson Elementary is to “Spark Each Student to be ready for success!” In striving to meet this mission, we work to help students become life-ready in an environment where everyone is honest, responsible, respectful, and safe. A part of this goes to the physical environment and opportunities that we provide for our students every day. Currently, our newest playground equipment is twelve years old and the PTO is looking to make an investment in the playground facilities to provide the students more options as well as making the options more inclusive, challenging, and eclectic. As stated previously, the main piece of the playground is twelve years old. Still the main structure is in good condition, I say this to point out that any investment in the playground will be a lasting investment. The equipment that we are looking to add range from climbers and balance equipment to musical pieces and equipment that our wheelchair bound students can access without leaving their chairs. This will help us achieve our mission by helping students be safe and active from the confines of a chair, and work on honesty, respect, and responsibility as they learn how to effectively interact with one another under the supervision of our staff.

This particular equipment will provide opportunities for students to interact with one another with more equipment and with varied activities. Our music teacher has looked at several pieces that we are looking to purchase. She has discussed how students could use this equipment to have fun with one another carrying out the principles learned in music class as well as opportunities for students in her class to see music principles come to life when/if she takes her children outside to interact with the equipment. We are also excited that our special needs population can access some of the pieces that we are looking at with little to no issues at all. For example, we are looking at two pieces that they can spin or glide without even leaving their chair, while another; they can spin in with a safety harness with a quick transfer from their chair.

Other pieces will help students work on their core and balance with climbers as they play with their friends. We constantly are looking for ways that our students can practice their social skills in a respectful and responsible way. Unstructured play is a key component as we try to facilitate this practice. This new equipment will be in addition to our current equipment allowing students to spread out and play in an inclusive way allowing them to not have to be so close in proximity to one another.

We are looking to add as much of the equipment that we can afford during the summer. We do have some volunteers, vendors, and maintenance personnel lined up to help install the equipment. We want to complete the project this summer so students can start the school year with the new equipment and the project can take place without the issues that would come from having to shut down the playground or at least sections of the playground as we safely install the equipment. We would start out by establishing a footprint by removing several outdated pieces to make more room for the additions. We are ensured that the turn around on all the equipment would be short and would allow for an installation without delaying use at the start of the school year if we are able to order before the end of this school year.

Again, we strive to create an environment where students can be honest, responsible, respectful, and safe. This equipment will allow students to pursue their interests, work on strength, and increase inclusivity. If the new equipment lasts as long as the current equipment, we are looking at a positive impact on several thousand students over the course of the years. We are excited to provide this opportunity for our students, and are looking for ways to be more effective with our social interactions during unstructured playtime. One way to measure the success of this project would be a decrease in student discipline data occurring on the playground. We have made strides in this area with supervision and cameras, however, this new

equipment may be the next step that is needed to help ensure the success of our students for years to come.

Thank you so much for your consideration. Please, don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or concerns about our project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Michael Barnum", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Michael Barnum, Principal

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Josh Tucker", with a stylized, looped design.

Josh Tucker, Assistant Principal

SES Playground Options

DOME CLIMBER w/ ORBS \$5,500

<https://www.miracle-recreation.com/featured-products/dome-climber/>

14 children

TEN SPIN \$2,399

<https://www.miracle-recreation.com/product/ten-spin/>

10 children

ACCELERATOR SWING \$7,319

<https://www.miracle-recreation.com/product/accelerator-swing/>

4 children

INCLUSIVE WHIRL \$10,699

<http://miraclekytn.com/portfolio/freestanding-inclusive-whirl-on-pour-in-place-surfacing/>

2 wheel chairs/9 users total

SADDLE SEAT \$558

<https://www.miracle-recreation.com/product/saddle-seat-angled/>

1 child

SURFER \$536

<https://www.miracle-recreation.com/product/surfer/>

1 child

MUSICAL - TUTTI \$5,534

<https://www.percussionplay.com/tutti/>

3-6 children

MUSICAL - RAINBOW SAMBAS \$2,372

<https://www.percussionplay.com/rainbow-sambas/>

1-5 children

MUSICAL - CAPELLA \$3,324

<https://www.percussionplay.com/capella/>

1-2 children