

# 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](mailto:fseducationalexcellence@gmail.com). Completed applications should be submitted via email to [fseducationalexcellence@gmail.com](mailto:fseducationalexcellence@gmail.com) in PDF form. Application deadlines are outlined below.

**Applicant Name & Position:** Abby Raines, Third Grade Classroom Teacher

**School/Organization Involved:** Simpson Elementary School

**Amount Requested:** \$7,750

**Purpose of Funding:** To receive a class set of chromebooks and a charging cart to store them.

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

**Number of Students/Persons Affected by Grant:** 75 students

**Academic Area:** Reading Language Arts Social Studies Math  
Science Fine arts Community Other:



**Brief Summary of Project (2 - 3 Sentences):**

My goal is to receive a classroom set of Chromebooks and charging cart to be used daily in my classroom. Having this will give my students more opportunities to practice their 21st century skills, and allow me to meet the diverse needs of ALL students within my classroom.

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

**Contact Person:** Abby Raines

**Phone: (Day & Evening)** 270-586-4414 **Fax:** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-Mail:** abby.raines@simpson.kyschools.us

**Grant Cycle Submitted:** Feb. April Sept. Nov.

### Required Signatures

**Simpson County Schools:**

**Principal/Supervisor** [Signature] **Date** 7/28/19

**Superintendent** [Signature] **Date** 8/4/19

**Community Organizations:**

**Grant Preparer:** Abby Raines **Title** Teacher **Date** July 28, 2019

Abby Raines

Board Representative \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## A.NARRATIVE

1.

The mission of Simpson Elementary is "To develop students to become life-ready in an environment where everyone is honest, responsible, respectful, and safe." Furthermore, Spark Each Student to be ready for success. I feel like all teachers not only want to teach the students the curriculum, but to also help them understand how to be a good citizen within our community. We are helping students to be life-ready not only in education, but with everyday skills as well. As we are all out on a daily basis what is one thing we see more of today than 20 years ago? I would have to say we see some type of technology when passing by people on the streets or in the grocery store. We encounter technology everyday whether it be at the store, our jobs, or trying to communicate with others. One way we are life-ready is by being able to know how to use technology appropriately and use it safely as well.

2.

At this time, my team of five third grade teachers share a chromebook cart with 24 chromebooks on it. We each have a day for the cart to be in our classroom, so we can utilize it. In my opinion, this is a problem because there are days we aren't in school and students miss the opportunity to get on the programs we use. We also have days when the internet is acting up and students miss their day again. Simpson Elementary uses lots of wonderful online resources to help our students be life-ready learners. Having only 1 cart per team is a struggle to help them become life-ready leaders with technology.

One resource we use at Simpson is SuccessMaker. It was suggested that students get on this program 3 times a week for a 20 minute session. That is difficult to do when we only have the chromebook cart one day a week. Another program the students really enjoy is a Math program called Prodigy. This program is more of an incentive for students when they do well with their SuccessMaker sessions. What the students don't realize is that when they are on Prodigy they are working on Math Skills that I have set up for them to work on within their level.

Another program I would like to implement more is Epic! This is a web page that the students can log into and read books on their level. They can search for a topic and books will load that they can read. My classroom library of books has dwindled down over the years and I often hear from students "I've read all of the books in this classroom." Epic! Allows for students to read a book online and search for books of their interest. All students have a digital portfolio where they have to type a writing piece.

In 3rd grade we use their Informational Piece from their Career Day speeches. Having 1:1 chromebooks in my classroom would allow students more time in the classroom to research and type without having to take them home. Previously, we have sent them home with the students because we don't have enough devices in the classroom for all students to work on them at one time. Having a class set of chromebooks would also allow me more time to work in small groups with students on a skill while I know the others are working on a program that is set to specific skills for themselves.

There are many other online resources for storytelling, creating videos, and allowing students to be creative. I just have not been able to use them in my classroom due to the lack of 1:1 technology for the students. Having this class set of chromebooks would allow more experiences for the students and allow the students creativity to shine in ways that will be shocking to us all.

3.

I would begin using this chromebook cart as soon as it is available. As 3rd Grade students are more aware of technology and how to use it, I would still go over rules and expectations on day 1. This way the students are aware of appropriate and inappropriate use. Students would be able to practice logging into their accounts on AR, SuccessMaker, Prodigy, Google Classroom, Epic!, and many other resources we use at Simpson Elementary. Implementing the chromebooks will take lots of preparation, but the end result for my classroom will make it all worth it.

The first thing I would start with is making sure students understand how to log in to the chromebook and the appropriate resources that are available. So, I would start with SuccessMaker, Prodigy, AR, Google Classroom, and Epic! Allowing the students time to work on these resources will help them understand how to use the chromebook appropriately. I have lots of ideas for students to use the chromebooks during November and December with different cultures and their customs they celebrate. When we come back from Christmas Break is when we normally start researching information on their career day speeches. This will give them an opportunity to research different careers before picking the one they want to write about. We will also be able to practice typing skills throughout the school year with a class set of chromebooks. This would be a wonderful resource since technology is more prevalent today than it was 20 years ago.

4.

We are continuously setting goals and checking our progress on those goals in my classroom. When we meet that goal we set another one. We discuss ways to meet those goals and if they didn't meet their goal what we can do differently to meet it the next time. We have a Next Grade Ready board that I go over with the students and inform them what it takes for their picture to be on that board. The students work extremely hard on their academics to get their picture up there. Having a 1:1 chromebook in my classroom would help those students who are struggling have more time in the resources we have available.

When students are Next Grade Ready they have met certain criteria on STAR Reading/Math, Fluency checks and writing skills. To help students meet those Next Grade Ready scores I would utilize websites like SuccessMaker and Epic! to provide students an opportunity to work on skills they are struggling with and find books that are of interest to them and help them strengthen their test scores. I will also use SuccessMaker and Prodigy to engage the students in the Math portion of the Next Grade Ready scores.

At this time I only have access to the chromebook cart one day a week, as long as my day isn't a missed day and the internet is working. It is near impossible to utilize all of these wonderful resources with just having 1:1 chromebooks once a week. The chromebooks are not used to make my job easier. They are used to help implement the standards I am teaching and to enhance the learning that is being brought to my classroom. I feel there are lots of great resources out there that I could use for students who are on the brim of getting their picture on the Next Grade Ready board.

## **B.EVALUATION**

I mentioned above how my goal is to use the chromebooks to help the students become Next Grade Ready. I will be able to monitor student usage on the resources I have spoken about and can pull them individually if I see they are not making progress or struggling with a concept. This will allow students the opportunity to ask me any questions they have with a concept they are struggling with. I will also be able to use the chromebooks in a large group or small group setting. Not only will they be used in my core reading and math, but I will also be able to use them during my flex time for Math and Reading as well. There are also great resources for Science, Social Studies and Writing that I can utilize too. The main source of evaluation will be the reports I can print from the resources I have talked about and check student usage and success or struggles. If students are struggling with a concept I will be able to differentiate their work without other students knowing or seeing what is going on because they will be on their own chromebook.

As far as making sure students are life-ready by the end of 3rd grade I can evaluate how well students use of the chromebook is. Are they able to log in by themselves or do they still need help? Did they have to have help while typing their writing pieces? These are also important skills before moving on to the next grade level. Last year our 3rd Grade students took quarterly assessments called CASE. These were paper tests, but this year they will be done on the computer. Having the 1:1 chromebook in my classroom will also make testing easier since they will have previous and consistent use with the chromebooks.

### C.BUDGET

1.

Item	Amount	Number Requested	Source	Total Cost
Google Chromebooks	\$225 ea	30	School IT Dept.	\$6,750
16 Unit Charging Cart	\$441.69	2	School Specialty	\$883.33
Shipping Estimate				\$150

The table above is a breakdown of what the total cost of a class set of chromebooks and carts would cost. I talked to Scot Perdue (Simpson Co. School IT Dept.) and Jessi Eaton (2nd grade teacher who has previously applied for a grant) about the cost and type of chromebooks to use.

As I was looking for resources to use within my classroom, all of them are free. If there are ever any that I find that cost I will either pay for it out of my pocket or discuss with Mr. Barnum about the cost and see if it would be a useful resource for our school to use or not.

2.

I am not seeking funds from any other resource.

### D.APPLICATION SUMMARY

The mission of the Franklin Simpson Educational Excellence Foundation, Inc. is "To supplement existing educational opportunities through funding to educators and community organizations in order to facilitate effective learning." This proposal meets with your mission because I am asking for a class set of chromebooks to help meet the needs of all students and to help facilitate the learning that is going on within my classroom. Currently I share a chromebook cart with the other 4 teachers on my team. I am supposed to get the chromebook cart once a week, but if my day falls on a day that we are out, my students miss their day. This means that some weeks my students are only able to utilize these resources once a week or maybe not even at all that week. I honestly feel that the consistent use of these resources by using the chromebooks will be more beneficial to differentiate needs for students and will also increase students scores.

The mission of Simpson Elementary is "To develop students to become life-ready in an environment where everyone is honest, responsible, respectful, and safe." This proposal meets with Simpson Elementary's mission because it is our job to teach students different ways to be successful and helpful community members. Not all students are going to have the highest grades, but having the use of 1:1 chromebooks in my classroom can show students different ways to be creative and show them strengths they might not have known about. Having a class set of chromebooks will not only help me with resources to benefit Reading, Math, Writing, Science and Social Studies, but it will also help with creativity and being life-ready for the years to come.

The mission of Simpson County Schools is "To develop all children to their fullest potential and prepare them for the next level of life!" This proposal meets with Simpson County Schools mission because a consistent use of technology will help the students progress with the use of technology for years to come. Not only will this help students achieve academic goals it could also help them identify different careers they would like to look into in the upcoming years. Students will be more excited about the learning that will go on in the classroom and will give students different ways to be creative with their learning.

The fear of technology taking over teaching has always scared me. I will still be the main teacher of instruction. I will just be able to use technology to help enhance the learning that is going on. Most students go home to a family with internet and computers/laptops at home. We still have some that don't have that, and the use of chromebooks in my classroom will help those students get the skills that others may already have due to experience. It is hard to expose students to different resources when I don't have the needed technology. Students will be able to be creative, researchers, and engaged in their learning. I am ready and excited about the different ways to make the learning in my classroom engaging for my students.