**Is your school library overseen by a certified school librarian or other paid professional?**

**Yes**

**Please describe**

**Our school library is overseen by a certified school librarian. Mrs. Vincent has been a librarian for six years including this year. She is currently in her fifth year as librarian at Todd County Middle School.**

**Please share how your school plans to use the grant.**

Word count: 342 / 500

First of all, I want you to know that our library collection is outdated in every area. Even though it could use a new shot in the arm for each category, I would use the grant money in two major areas.

In our community, there is a large Hispanic population. In our district, we have three ELL teachers and a migrant program. The reading material in Spanish is very limited in our library. While it is important for them to learn English, I believe it is also important to provide the material to read in their mother tongue. Therefore, I would seek out high-interest books written in Spanish, biographies of Hispanic heroes, and books related to the Latin community culture written in Spanish. I would also seek out books for science and social studies content material written in Spanish to provide them an extra boost as they are working in their English speaking classes.

As a person who has learned a second language in another country, it is so much easier to follow and understand the conversation if you just have the topic and a few facts given in your mother tongue. I feel this is essential to our students as well.

The second area of most need is in graphic novels. These books are way beyond the comic books we may think of as a graphic novel. Books in every genre have been written as graphic novels. Students who are not interested or struggle with reading love these books as much as the avid reader. Our library is a resource for students. Providing books that enrich or enlighten their experience in the content classes is a vital part of our service. Since there is so much information available to the student on the intern reference material per se has taken a back seat. Not that reference books are not needed, some students still enjoy the hardback form of reference material that we provide. Students also get that same material in a graphic novel to further their education from their content classes.

**Every school is unique. Please feel free to share any additional information about what distinguishes your school, library, or students (i.e. notable awards, school or library initiatives, etc).**

Word count: 239 / 500

Our school is unique because of our staff. Everyone who works in our school (regardless of capacity) is respected for their role in the education of our students. This is cafeteria workers, janitors, assistants, teachers, office staff, and administrators - we are all respected the same. Each understands the valuable position they hold and do not feel like any position is more important than another. As we all do our job to the best of our ability, our students receive the benefits. It is important that our students realize that it is a team effort in our school and that all adults are to be respected and listened to for instruction or directions.

Students are encouraged to participate in a variety of sports and academic clubs/teams. In sports, we offer baseball, basketball, soccer, football, archery, dance, cheering, and golf. In academics, we offer the Kentucky Association of Academic Competition which includes, Sixth Grade Showcase as well as Governors Cup competition and social studies bee. This year has been difficult in all areas with all the shutdowns and startups not knowing from week to week what is allowed or not allowed. Through it all our students have shown their abilities clearly on the field and in the classroom. The most recent example is the Sixth Grade Showcase in which our students placed overall third, and several students placed first in their content assessment with 2nd, 3rd, and 4th places as well.