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ET 680
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Funding Paper

After researching and reviewing grant options, I feel the following grant opportunities

would be excellent opportunities for our school to discuss and apply.

Maryland Society for Educational Technology (MSET) Grant

"MSET offers Maryland educators an opportunity to apply for grants to encourage the

effective use of technology in teaching and learning,"(MSET 2009). All Maryland educators who

are members of the MSET and have paid their $25 membership dues by the set date in December

annually are permissible to apply for this grant as long as their application meets the criteria set

by the MSET and the grant request does not exceed $700. The grant request must also reflect the

promotion of innovated uses of instructional technology in the classroom in the forms of

software, hardware, or peripherals needed to complete the program. Grant applications are due in

the beginning of December and reviewed throughout the month. Grant recipients are notified by

the end of December. The MSET website is http://www.msetonline.org/. Here links to the grant

application and grant and award information can be found. An overview of the MSET's annual

grant opportunity and contact information can be found at

http://www.msetonline.org/grantsawards/grantapplications.

The MSET have written a very detailed grant application that can be used as a helpful

tool in the creation of a grant proposal created for them. The clearly stated criteria can be found

on the grant application process form at

http://www.miccaonline.org/initiatives/MSET_Grant__Application_2009_10.doc. Here eleven

criterions can be found. The best way to write the grant proposal would be to follow the outline form the MSET created. The MSET also offer their applicants a chance to view the rubric that will be used to review their grant proposal. The rubric can be found at http://www.msetonline.org/files/Rubric_for_MSET_Grant_Application_2009_10.doc.

This grant opportunity also includes the condition of all grant recipients to present a summary of their grant implementation at the MSET Conference in the spring of their receiving year. This is an opportunity to allow schools to exchange ideas and share advice, as well as, ensure the grant money given was put to appropriate use.

I feel that this is the perfect grant opportunity for our school. $700 is an amount of money that could allow our school to make the purchase of flip video cameras or another document camera. The grant's clearly stated criteria and view of the reviewing rubric allow for the grant proposal writing to be an easy process. If we as a technology committee would like to look at ideas for grants, the MSET offers a list of previous years' recipients. http://www.miccaonline.org/initiatives/grants.html shows the MSET grant recipients of 2007-2008. The con to this grant, however, is that only a member of the MSET can apply. While the annual dues of $25 is not a large amount of money it is something a member of the technology committee will have to make a request to our administration for, creating an extra step in the grant proposal process.

The Marion I. & Henry J. Knott Foundation

The Marion I. & Henry J. Knott Foundation is based with the Archdiocese of Baltimore. The main website for the Knott Foundation is http://www.knottfoundation.org/. The Knott Foundation awards grants every four months. These grants range from an average of $35,000 - $45,000. The Knott Foundation awards grants to organizations Baltimore City and Allegany, Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Carroll, Frederick, Garrett, Harford, Howard, Washington counties. Grant guideline can be found at http://www.knottfoundation.org/grant_guidelines. Here one finds the grant categories: Education, Human Services, Health Care, Catholic Activities, and Arts and Humanities. If a school or organization needs assistance in one of these categories they can then pick a project area focus for their grant. The project types that are funded can also be found at http://www.knottfoundation.org/grant_guidelines and include new and/or old programs, operating expenses, technology, capital expenses, and development.

The Knott Grant process is broken into steps. Step one: make sure your request addresses and appropriately fulfills are grant guidelines (http://www.knottfoundation.org/grant_guidelines). Step two: "contact the Contact the Foundation's Program Officer, Carole Gibison or the Executive Director, Greg Cantori by phone at 410-235-7068 at least one week prior to the Letter of Inquiry deadline to discuss your potential request," (Knott 2009). Verbal authorization is needed for any grant request to be considered. Step three: a Letter of Inquiry and a Grant Proposal/Finical Analysis Form must be submitted. A format of the Letter of Inquiry can be opened as a Microsoft Word Document from the Letter of Inquiry link on http://www.knottfoundation.org/grant_guidelines/grant_application_process. Here you can also open sample letters and "What Should Be Included in a Letter of Inquiry". The Grant Proposal

Finical Analysis form can be downloaded in Microsoft Excel from the Knott Foundation homepage by clicking on the LOI & Financials link. Step four: a draft of the grant proposal must be submitted. This step takes place about a month after the due date of the Grant Proposal/Finical Analysis Form has been submitted. Step five takes place fifteen days later, a full grant proposal must be submitted. If one is asked to submit a full proposal, a three page checklist will be provided and must be submit with the proposal. A Viability Assessment Profile form (http://www.knottfoundation.org/uploaded_files/0000/0029/updated_school_viability_assessment_profile_form.pdf) must also be completed and submitted with the full grant proposal, as well as, a current operating budget and a projected two year budget for the proposed project. Within the following month step five is conducted, a site visit. Two and a half months later grants are awarded and announced. All forms needed for those seeking grants can easily be found at http://www.knottfoundation.org/grant_guidelines/forms_for_grant_seekers. If a school or an organization is denied approval, they may reapply after one year.

This grant opportunity has both pros and cons when considering it for our school. A major benefit of this grant is that it is an opportunity to receive a significant amount of money. $35,000-$45, 000 would allow for our technology committee to work with our teachers and administrators and create a new technology program for our students or allow for use to provide classrooms with student-use computers or update one of our laptop carts. This size grant could also allow for our school to put ceiling projectors in the first floor classrooms. The quality of programs or projects that this grant could ensure is a key draw for our school to apply for this grant. This grant opportunity, however, is a very tedious process. The amount of work that must go into the application process of the Knott Foundation grant could be viewed as a con. It would be a serious undertaking of the technology committee and/or the member/s that work on the

completion of the steps of the process. Add onto the ever-growing pile of work and responsibilities our teachers have is not going to be viewed as a positive, especially when the additional responsibility is of this magnitude.

Captain Planet Foundation

"The mission of the Captain Planet Foundation is to fund and support hands-on, environmental projects for children and youths. Our objective is to encourage innovative programs that empower children and youth around the world to work individually and collectively to solve environmental problems in their neighborhoods and communities," (2007). A video capturing the mission of the Captain Planet Foundation can be viewed on its overview website http://www.captainplanetfoundation.org/default.aspx?pid=1&tab=about. Here links to information concerning grant applications and proposals can be found. By clicking on the grant application link, http://www.captainplanetfoundation.org/default.aspx?pid=3&tab=apply, The Captain Planet Foundation offers grant submissions four times a year, March 31st, June 30th, September 30th, and December 31st. Applicants will be informed as to where their grant proposal stands within four months of submission.