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2009

RE: GRANTS

Dear Educator:

Are you frustrated being told that there is no money for the lab you envision for your program? The following information is the result of a meeting with a successful grant writer giving tips that make it possible for you to prepare goals, write, and submit a successful grant proposal.

The first part of the following information is a list of helpful sites.

The second part is the result of an interview with Barb Harvey from Highland Park High School in Highland Park, IL (District 113), the main writer of a successful Flap Grant.

This information is intended to give you the means to begin the process. There is much more information available on the subject. Our idea is to take away the initial fear of procuring funds in this way. ASC typically receives Purchase Orders from several schools per year that have successfully received FLAP grants, so it is possible!

## PART 1

### **1. NCELA: Foreign Language Assistance Program:**

This site is particularly rich in information. Note: make sure to check out the Richey Article on the above site! Click on this to see it: "The Foreign Language Assistance Program," by Rebecca Richey, 2007. It is very detailed as to how to go about writing a successful grant.

[http://www.ncela.gwu.edu/oela/OELAprograms/4\\_FLAP.htm](http://www.ncela.gwu.edu/oela/OELAprograms/4_FLAP.htm)

### **2. Ed.Gov, the U.S. Department of Education:**

*This is a great site as it has connections to the state departments of education for all 50 states + more! Check this out to find out what is going on in your back yard.*

<http://www.ed.gov/about/contacts/state/index.html?src=gu>

### **3. Guidelines for Grant Preparation: Foreign Language Assistance Program:**

A helpful document from New Mexico Highlands University in Albuquerque from 1996.

<http://www.ncela.gwu.edu/pubs/eacwest/handouts/grants/frmlang.htm>

### **4. Wisconsin Department of Instruction: World Languages: Grant Opportunities:**

*Information from the official site of the state of Wisconsin in regards to Grants in Education.*

<http://dpi.wi.gov/cal/wl-grntflap.html>

**5. Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE): FLAP Grants to local educational agencies:**

*Information from the official site of the state of Illinois in regards to Grants in Education.*

[http://www.isbe.state.il.us/bilingual/ebroadcasts/2007-08/ebroadcast\\_2008-105.htm](http://www.isbe.state.il.us/bilingual/ebroadcasts/2007-08/ebroadcast_2008-105.htm)

**6. JNCL/NCLIS:**

*Information from the Joint National Committee for languages and the National Council for Languages and International Studies.*

[http://www.languagepolicy.org/grants/FLAP/all\\_about\\_flap.html](http://www.languagepolicy.org/grants/FLAP/all_about_flap.html)

**7. Welcome to School Grants!**

*"Your one-stop site for PK-12 school grant opportunities"*

*Created in 1999 as a way to share ways to get beyond intimidating grant writing for those who are new at it. Online tips are provided when needed. A variety of grant options are listed.*

<http://www.schoolgrants.org/welcome.htm>

**8. Find. Apply. Succeed.**

*This is the source of Federal grants and how to go about applying for them.*

<http://www.grants.gov/>

**9. AATF (American Association of Teachers of French) Small Grant Awards:**

*For projects relating to the study of French...a maximum of \$500 which will be matched by the AATF Chapter to which the Teacher belongs.*

<http://frenchteachers.org/hq/smallgrant.htm>

**10. AATSP (American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese) Small Grant Awards:**

*There are scholarships awarded for research.*

[http://www.aatsp.org/scriptcontent/custom/members/02\\_resources/awards/Awards\\_Scholarship\\_Stipend.cfm](http://www.aatsp.org/scriptcontent/custom/members/02_resources/awards/Awards_Scholarship_Stipend.cfm)

**11. Best Buy: Community Relations, Teach Awards:**

*Since 2004, the above program "...has awarded more than \$17 million to over 6,000 K-12 schools." Applications are due between July 1 and October 12, 2008 and will be announced on March 3, 2009. Over \$10,000 will be awarded to up to 15 applications supporting 9<sup>th</sup> grade programs.*

[http://www.bestbuyinc.com/community\\_relations/teach\\_awards.htm](http://www.bestbuyinc.com/community_relations/teach_awards.htm)

**12. Office Depot: kids in need Foundation, 2008 Kids In Need Teacher Grants Application:**

*"\$100 to \$500 to fund projects that make creative use of common teaching aids, approach curriculum from an imaginative angle, or tie nontraditional concepts together for the purpose of illustrating commonalities. Innovation and merit account for 40% of the evaluation."*

[http://www.kidsinneed.net/grants/2008\\_teacher\\_grant\\_app.php?source=officedepot](http://www.kidsinneed.net/grants/2008_teacher_grant_app.php?source=officedepot)

**13. Borders Group, Inc.:**

*"In 1981, Borders Book Shop in Ann Arbor began offering local organizations and schools a program called Book Days for fundraising and library enrichment...Interested local nonprofits, schools...invite their friends and supporters to shop at their local Borders location during a specified weekend. The Organizations are responsible for publicizing fundraising opportunities....Borders gives back a percentage...as a donation."*

[http://www.borders.com/online/store/BGIView\\_bgicommlocal](http://www.borders.com/online/store/BGIView_bgicommlocal)

**14. Staples Foundation for Learning:**

You can receive up to \$25,000 in grant monies although the usual amount is between \$5,000 and \$25,000. For the January 2009 grants, you must submit a proposal between October 10 and October 24 by 11:59 pm EST.

<http://www.staplesfoundation.org/>

**15. Target Corporation Grants:**

Check out the website, Target does much to support the educational community in numerous ways...the grants range from an average of \$1000 to \$3000. As of March 2008 on their website, they state they have donated \$229 million!

<http://sites.target.com/site/en/corporate/page.jsp?contentId=PRD03-004090>

PART 2

**May 29, 2008 Interview: Discussion of Grants, Grant Writing, and Grant requirements**

Notes on how to go about grant writing gleaned from an interview with a successful grant writer (Barb Harvey, Chairperson of the Department of Foreign Languages, Highland Park High School, District 113, in the northern suburbs of Chicago for a grant received in 2007.

FLAP (Foreign language assistance programs) Grants can be for:

- Critical (e.g., Mandarin Chinese)
- Non-Critical Need Languages

To procure a FLAP Grant for a non-critical need language, it would be necessary to show evidence of or a good amount of the following as final outcomes:

- Community service
- Usage of technology like "Skype" for international pen-pal situations
- Other uses of technology to ensure enhancement of communicative language activities
- Access for students to the following types of activities (*please note that many of them come with lesson plans of a variety of degrees of difficulty for easy use by teachers*):
  - Audio and/or Video Streaming
  - World Language TV (e.g., TV5: French TV)
  - BBC
  - Deutsche Welle
  - Radio France
  - Miscellaneous L2 TV and Radio Broadcasting

***Importance of being "on board" with the goals of the Grant:***

Teachers must believe that by more exposure to authentic/native speakers, that the above will enhance the education and improvement of the communicative abilities of their students. Access to this provides something that a teacher is not capable of doing on his/her own.

***Overall Goals of the Grant:***

The main goal provided by the grant is a total enhancement of the communicative skills of students in L2. Access to all of this media increases production of it in the classroom. The ultimate goal is to have the students communicating 100% of the time in the target language.

***Partnerships:***

In preparing for the Grant, thought should be given to "partnerships," be they with educational institutions like the local university or with community organizations like: Rotary International, the Chamber of Commerce, and/or sister cities. The more global the involvement, the better!

***Dollar for dollar:***

It must be remembered that, in procuring a grant, that the local school district is responsible for matching the grant allowance *dollar for dollar!*

***Creativity*** is the word that comes to mind when thinking about the matching of monies dollar for dollar. Here are some examples of what may count as matching the grant amount dollar for dollar:

- Salaries:
  - of the teaching staff
  - of the physical plant people involved in setting up the lab
  - of the supervision staff
- The cost of the utilities to operate the facility

***Space:***

Barb Harvey felt that this is an important consideration when applying for a grant. She stated that there should either be a ready space or a space, which may be converted for use.

***AN ASIDE FROM ASC:***

*In the experience of the experts at ASC, space is not a subject of concern. There are great portable (wireless) solutions such as the ReLANpro (which requires student computers) and the Onic (which does not require student computers).*

*Please feel free to contact us for pedagogical philosophy regarding the use of a language lab if necessary or to request any information about our systems. We can include costs to include with your grant application given the number of student positions you desire.*

*Grants may also be written for courseware. We will be glad to send information about networked EuroTalk, Europe's best selling courseware, available in over 115 languages.*

*We, at ASC, wish you great success in procuring your language lab and/or courseware. We always appreciate hearing from you after receiving your funding so that you can share your expertise with your fellow educators.*

Regards,



Carla K. Newton  
Sales/Customer Support Specialist



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