

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

TAPS Number
08A305

Project Application

<p>Please return to:</p> <p>Florida Department of Education Office of Grants Management Room Turlington Building 325 West Gaines Street Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0400 Telephone: (850) 245-0496 Suncom: 205-0496</p>	<p>A) Program Name:</p> <p>Boys & Girls Clubs Computer Literacy Mentoring Program</p>	<p>DOE USE ONLY</p> <p>Date Received</p>						
<p>B) Name and Address of Eligible Applicant:</p> <p>The School District of Palm beach County Department of Safe Schools 1790 NW Spanish River Blvd. Boca Raton, FL 33431</p>		<p>Project Number (DOE Assigned)</p>						
<p>C) Total Funds Requested:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">\$ 131,705</p> <hr style="width: 25%; margin: 10px auto;"/> <p><i>DOE USE ONLY</i></p> <p>Total Approved Project:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">e</p>	<p>D)</p> <p>Applicant Contact Information</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 60%; padding: 5px;"> <p>Contact Name: Alison Adler, School District of Palm Beach County Lottie Gatewood, Boys & Girls</p> </td> <td style="width: 40%; padding: 5px;"> <p>Mailing Address: 1790 NW Spanish River Blvd., Boca Raton, FL 33431 800 Northpoint Pkwy., Suite 204 West Palm Beach, FL 33407</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;"> <p>Telephone Number: 561-982-0900 Alison Adler 561-683-3287 Lottie Gatewood</p> </td> <td style="padding: 5px;"> <p>SunCom Number:</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;"> <p>Fax Number: 561-982-0943 Alison Adler 561-683-1618 Lottie Gatewood</p> </td> <td style="padding: 5px;"> <p>E-mail Address: aadler@palmbeach.k12.fl.us lgatewood@bgcpbc.org</p> </td> </tr> </table>		<p>Contact Name: Alison Adler, School District of Palm Beach County Lottie Gatewood, Boys & Girls</p>	<p>Mailing Address: 1790 NW Spanish River Blvd., Boca Raton, FL 33431 800 Northpoint Pkwy., Suite 204 West Palm Beach, FL 33407</p>	<p>Telephone Number: 561-982-0900 Alison Adler 561-683-3287 Lottie Gatewood</p>	<p>SunCom Number:</p>	<p>Fax Number: 561-982-0943 Alison Adler 561-683-1618 Lottie Gatewood</p>	<p>E-mail Address: aadler@palmbeach.k12.fl.us lgatewood@bgcpbc.org</p>
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<p>CERTIFICATION</p> <p>I, _____, (<i>Please Type Name</i>) do hereby certify that all facts, figures, and representations made in this application are true, correct, and consistent with the statement of general assurances and specific programmatic assurances for this project. Furthermore, all applicable statutes, regulations, and procedures; administrative and programmatic requirements; and procedures for fiscal control and maintenance of records will be implemented to ensure proper accountability for the expenditure of funds on this project. All records necessary to substantiate these requirements will be available for review by appropriate state and federal staff. I further certify that all expenditures will be obligated on or after the effective date and prior to the termination date of the project. Disbursements will be reported only as appropriate to this project, and will not be used for matching funds on this or any special project, where prohibited.</p> <p>Further, I understand that it is the responsibility of the agency head to obtain from its governing body the authorization for the submission of this application.</p> <p>E) _____ Signature of Agency Head</p>								



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Request for Application (RFA Discretionary)

NARRATIVE SECTION

I. Need

For the 2006-2007 school year, 170,582 students were enrolled at 166 schools making the School District of Palm Beach County, Florida the fourteenth largest School District in the country and an amalgam of race, ethnicity, cultures and socioeconomic levels. With many of the schools defined as Title I, the majority of students are at risk of educational failure.

According to a 1999 report by researchers at Stanford University, "Compelling Interest: Examining the Evidence on Racial Dynamic in Higher Education," schools populated by low-income, minority children tend to have less money and fewer supplies, poorly skilled teachers, fewer college preparation courses and other negative conditions. The correlation between poverty and minority status mirrors the results in Palm Beach County, as a large percentage of economically disadvantaged youth did not meet the proficiency standards in either reading or math. And while the FCAT results showed Black students fared better in math this past year, they along with students who are learning English continue to struggle with reading.

While the School District includes the wealthy island of Palm Beach, the County encompasses some of the most financially deprived towns in the state of Florida. The Glades area of South Bay is ranked as the fifth poorest town in the state according to per-capita income. According to updated 2000 Census data, more than one in four families in the Glades area including Belle Glade, Pahokee, Canal Point and South Bay lives in poverty. With seven club sites throughout this impoverished area, the Boys & Girls Clubs has a significant presence and works hand-in-hand with school personnel to help improve individual student performance and overall school performance as well. Similarly, five other club sites are located in severely distressed areas of West Palm Beach (two sites), Riviera Beach, Delray Beach and Boca Raton. As outlined by the schools served, the club locations, and the youth profiles, the clubs' youth are a reflection of those in the Stanford study.

This past year 62% of Palm Beach County's schools did not make adequate yearly progress under the federal No Child Left Behind law. Until recently, the school district has faced the problems created by tremendous growth, a huge land mass, overcrowding and large class sizes. And while school budgets have not been reduced yet due to property tax reform, wrap around services and supplemental programs from local cities and the county have been reduced or completely eliminated.

The Boys & Girls Clubs Computer Literacy Mentoring Program is provided at 13 Boys & Girls Clubs sites located in Delray Beach, West Palm Beach (two sites), Boca Raton, Wellington, Belle Glade (5 sites), South Bay, Canal Point and Riviera Beach. Through the technology centers, homework help and Power Hour, the program is designed to engage and encourage at-risk children to achieve academic improvement by succeeding in school and becoming lifelong learners. The program is tied to the school day and thanks to a strong collaboration with the school district, the Clubs are able to obtain student information, which helps us to address individual needs, particularly in reading and math, around school-based strategies. In turn, this collaboration and the improved performance of Club youth have helped low performing schools improve their overall student achievement levels as the majority of participating club youth outperform their same school peers.

The students who participate in this program attend the following Palm Beach County schools: Banyan Creek Elementary, Belle Glade Elementary, Benoist Farms Elementary, Bethune Elementary, Binks Forest Elementary, Calusa Elementary, Crosspointe Elementary, K.E/Cunningham/Canal Point Elementary, Eisenhower Elementary, Glade View Elementary, Gove Elementary, Imagine Elementary, J.C Mitchell

Elementary, Lake Park Elementary, Lincoln Elementary, Melaleuca Elementary, New Horizons Elementary, Northboro Elementary, Northmore Elementary, Orchard View Elementary, Panther Run Elementary, Pine Grove Elementary, Pioneer Park Elementary, Plumosa Elementary, Roosevelt Elementary, Rosenwald Elementary, S.D. Spady Elementary, Seminole Trails Elementary, Egret Lake Elementary, Village Academy, Washington Elementary, Wellington Elementary, West Riviera Elementary, Westgate Elementary, Westward Elementary, Wynnebrook Elementary, Bear Lakes Middle, Boca Raton Middle, Carver Middle, Jaega Middle, John F. Kennedy Middle, Lake Shore Middle, Roosevelt Middle, Wellington Landings Middle, Polo Park Middle, Atlantic High, Boca Raton High, Glades Central High, Pahokee Middle/Senior, Palm Beach Lakes High, Palm Beach Central High, John I. Leonard, and Wellington High. As almost all of the aforementioned schools are Title I, they are deemed to be in need of improvement or have failed to meet adequate yearly progress for at least two or more consecutive years. Many of the Club’s youth attend schools that have not made AYP for three or more years and these youths are also eligible for supplemental educational services or school transfers.

In addition to attending Title I schools, the majority of our members served by this program live in disadvantaged circumstances. Our membership profile reveals the following about the youths served in this program:

- 67% live in single parent or nontraditional households.
- 56% are boys and 44% are girls.
- 55% live in a household earning less than \$29,999 annually.
- 87% percent are minorities.
- The majority served does not own computers and are not involved with other youth development organizations.

Without the Clubs, 80 percent of our surveyed parents say it would be difficult to find an affordable program for their children to attend during non-school hours and 68% report their children would either go home alone each day after school or would spend a portion of their non-school hours in self care. Research shows that these are the hours when youngsters become involved in negative behaviors such as the use of drugs or alcohol, gang involvement and premature sexual activities. The Boys & Girls Clubs address these concerns by providing teen pregnancy and other prevention programs and a safe haven during this critical time period.

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Palm Beach County has a long history of working within the community and collaborating with a large number of service providers, funders, corporations, foundations and individuals to improve both its service delivery and to provide sustainable funding. The Club has a strong and dedicated Board of Directors that helped the organization grow from two Clubs in 1989, serving about 650 young people annually with a budget of about \$450,000 to 13 Clubs serving more than 2,000 young people each day, with a budget of nearly \$10,000,000 today. In addition, the organization is in the process of raising endowment funds to help sustain programs as well.

II. Project Design

Goals	Objectives	Performance Expectations
1) To provide the youth at all 13 Boys & Girls Clubs with an academic enhancement/mentoring program to improve their reading and math skills.	1.1) 35% of all program participants will maintain a grade of C or improve at least one letter grade in reading or math.	1.a) Youth will attend the Club’s Power Hour educational program. 1.b) Youth will attend Homework Help programs. 1.c) Youth will attend specialized computer education programs. 1.d) Club staff will measure youths’ lexile scores at the beginning of the school year and throughout the year. 1e) Staff will monitor and tabulate attendance at school and Club.

Goals	Objectives	Performance Expectations
<p>2) To increase knowledge regarding pregnancy prevention.</p> <p>3) To improve the behavior of students in school, with emphasis on their attitudes toward education.</p>	<p>2.1) Reduce the incidence of out-of-wedlock pregnancy.</p> <p>2.2) Provide programs on Teen Pregnancy Prevention, sexually transmitted diseases and testimonials by teen parents.</p> <p>3.1) A minimum of 50% of the youth who attend 50% of the time will improve their behavior and attitudes toward education.</p>	<p>2.a) Club youth will attend age appropriate pregnancy prevention programs.</p> <p>2.b) Club youth will be provided age appropriate pregnancy prevention programs through partnerships with the Palm Beach County Health Department and Planned Parenthood.</p> <p>2.c) Youth will learn about contracting and the consequences of contracting HIV/Aids and other sexually transmitted diseases through partnership with Treasure the Children.</p> <p>3.a) Club staff will monitor school attendance</p> <p>3.b) Club staff will monitor behavior at the school and club.</p>

Mentoring and Instructional Activities

Youth participating in the Computer Literacy Mentoring program are provided daily homework help, Power Hour and instructed on computer math, reading, grammar and typing programs. Power Hour provides youth with fun and educational “Power Pages”, which are tied to school performance standards. In addition, youth are provided instructional classes that deal with teen pregnancy prevention as well as the prevention of HIV/Aids and other sexually transmitted diseases. One of the computer programs utilized is C to A, which inspires members to bring up their grades at least by one letter. The program increases reading skills through its various software components such as Reading Blaster, Vocabulary and Spelling Blaster. Other software programs used are: Math Blaster, Mavis Beacon Typing for Teenagers, Sponge Bob Squarepants (typing for elementary age students), Skill Tech I & II, teaches youths the basics of computers, Music Tech, Design Tech, Learning Today, Teenbiz and various others. Through these activities youths participating in the program can be expected to acquire the following benefits:

- Individualized, structured learning experiences;
- Improved attitude toward learning in the school and Club;
- Self-paced and self-directed learning;
- Practical application of skills taught in the classroom;
- Remedial support as needed;
- Improved knowledge of teenage pregnancy prevention;
- Improved knowledge of HIV/Aids and other sexually transmitted disease prevention;
- Improved self-esteem;
- Improved grades in school; and
- Improved behavior.

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Palm Beach County partners with a number of organizations that provide instruction on teen pregnancy prevention and the prevention of sexually transmitted diseases. Among the

organizations the Clubs partner with are: the Palm Beach County Health Department, Planned Parenthood, and Treasure the Children. In addition, the Clubs have instituted the nationally recognized curriculum on teen pregnancy prevention of the Boys & Girls Clubs of America into their overall curriculum.

Professional Development Activities

Training for both the staff and volunteers/mentors will be ongoing and include education, computer and software training, learning strategies, social competency, youth development strategies, core program area training and effective guidance and discipline in a club setting. All training will emphasize the need to make learning activities fun, welcoming and participatory in nature.

Support for New and Existing Mentors

Support for new and existing staff, volunteers and mentors will be ongoing and include monthly meetings to discuss effectiveness of programs. In addition to classroom instruction on new and existing programs for staff and volunteers, online and manuscript training will be available. The Director of Computer Education, who will make at least one visit to each club site twice monthly, will also encourage continuing education. This will provide new and existing staff and mentors to submit new program ideas and ask for assistance on current issues.

III. Project Design

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Palm Beach County’s Director of Computer Education Dennis Young manages the Computer Literacy Mentoring project. Young joined the organization in 2004, but has worked with computer technology for the past 20 years. He holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Computer Science from Florida State University. Currently he manages eight employees who facilitate this project countywide. Young supervises all aspects of the Computer Literacy Mentoring program including:

- Leading the staff team in developing computer and educational learning opportunities;
- Establishing and maintaining liaison with schools to coordinate activities;
- Establishing and maintaining liaison with partner organizations to coordinate activities;
- Recruiting, orientating and training of employees;
- Recruiting Club member participants;
- Coordinates educational programs with the Director of Education and other program staff; and
- Establishing parental support and activities to encourage involvement.

In addition to the Director of Computer Education, staffing includes seven part-time technical assistants who are paid by the Department of Education and four additional support staff who are paid through other funding. These technical assistants are paraprofessionals and many are attending local universities seeking their four-year degrees. The program also employs Homework Help assistants along with many other core area program professionals and non-paid teen and youth member mentors who assist staff and provide guidance to young members.

Methodology for Selecting/Allocating Funds

The Club employs generally accepted accounting practices and is audited each year by an independent auditing firm. All development costs including marketing and personnel such as the President & CEO, Vice President of Development, Director of Development and Chief Financial Officer are charged to the administration. The remaining administrative costs are allocated to the Clubs based on budgetary percentage on an annual basis. The allocation of the funds for the Computer Literacy Mentoring Program was selected to ensure the costs for direct services and oversight of the program were in place. Funds were therefore allocated for technology, Power Hour and homework help staff as well as for program supplies and computer hardware and software.

Partners

In addition to parents, principals and teachers our partners for the Computer Literacy Mentoring Program include:

Organization	Internal/External	• Involvement
• Boys & Girls Clubs of Palm Beach County	Internal	• Overhead costs and cross over staffing

Organization	Internal/External	Involvement
• School Board of Palm Beach County	External	• Rent-free space at six elementary schools/student academic information/supplies
• Boys & Girls Clubs of America	Internal	• Provides training in nationally recognized education and teen prevention programs
• Planned Parenthood	External	• Provides teen pregnancy prevention curriculum
• Palm Beach County Health Department	External	• Provides teen pregnancy prevention curriculum
• Treasure the Children	External	• Provides HIV Aids prevention curriculum
• Learning Today	External	• Provides educational software
• The Children's' Coalition	External	• Provides mentors

Mentor Reporting Plan

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Palm Beach County will cooperate with all State and District mandates for program records and outcome measurements. The measurement tools will include attendance records for the school and Club programs, Lexile scores, FCAT scores as well as report card grades and pre and posttests in various programs.

Timeline

Project dates are set for August 27, 2007 through May 31, 2008. All the aforementioned programs are offered year-round and are ultimately used to improve the academic achievement of students, especially those with poor reading and math skills. The timeline for the project's completion is as follows:

Target Date	Activity	Responsibility
August 27-29, 2007	Staff training	Director of Computer Education
August 29-30, - through end of school year	Daily Homework Help is offered	Director of Education
August 29-30, - through end of school year	Power Hour is offered on a rotating basis	Director of Education
August 29-30, - through end of school year	Computer lab orientation for members, begin Music Tech and Photo Tech programs. Music and photo programs are ongoing throughout the year.	Computer Instructors
August 29-30, - through end of school year	Begin C to A Program – program is ongoing throughout the school year. Pretest for Typing given.	Director of Computer Education
September 4, 2007	Begin National Photo Program and Skill Tech program – basic computer program class. Programs are ongoing	Computer Instructors

Target Date	Activity	Responsibility
September 8, 2007 September/October September and rotating throughout the year November 2007 December 8, 2007 January 12, 2008	throughout the school year. Staff training and meeting Collection of Lexile Reading Scores Teen Pregnancy and sexually transmitted disease prevention programs Baseline grades established as report cards for elementary and middle schools are distributed by November 21. Staff Meeting and training Staff meeting and training	Director Computer Education Director of Education Director of Health and Life Skills Computer Instructors Director of Computer Education Director of Computer Education
January 2008 January 2008 February 9, 2008 March 9, 2008 March 2008 April 13, 2008 May 7, 2008 May 2008 July 2007	Begin Design Tech Program, which teaches youth how to write and create professional quality printed materials and animation. All other computer programs continue. Submit midterm report to DOE. Staff meeting and training Staff meeting and training All technology programs continue. Staff training and meeting Begin posttests on programs. All programs continue through end of May. Collection of data including increases in test score, grades and attendance collected. Final report given to DOE	Computer Instructors Director Computer Education Director of Computer Education Director of Computer Education Computer Instructors Computer Instructors Director of Computer Education Director of Computer Education Director of Computer Education

Support for Reading/Strategic Imperatives

Through this program and others, the Just Read, Florida! Initiative and Strategic Imperative #3 to improve student rates of learning will be addressed. The ultimate goal is for every student to attain proficiency on grade level in reading, writing and mathematics.

Statement of Work/Dissemination and Marketing Plan

The marketing plan includes distribution of flyers, speaking with community leaders and various organizations about our mission and services. From this dissemination of information we expect our program to increase in participants. In addition, with parental involvement and our collaborations with schools, we expect to improve participants' academic achievements.

Through the Computer Literacy Mentoring program, parents are encouraged to support their children in school and at the Club where they acquire information to create a positive home environment that supports education. Furthermore, the Clubs collaborations with schools enable our organization to work side-by-side with the district to develop individualized plans for members to acquire competency in challenging subjects, especially math and reading.

Student Performance:

Any measure that is specific to student performance; e.g., test scores, attendance, behavior, award of diplomas, certificates, etc. Students may include pre-k, K-12, and adults.

(1) Name of Performance and Brief Description	(2) Method of Evaluating Performance	(3) Method of DOE Verification	(4) Timelines for Data Collection
Academic Achievement – 60% of members attending 75% of the time will maintain a C or improve their reading grade by one level by comparing their first and final report cards	School grades	Report cards, attendance records, list of participants	End of November baseline report card grades distributed. Midterm report to DOE due end of January. Final report cards distributed in June. Final report due end of July. List of participating students provided to the school district volunteer coordinator by January 31 and July 13.
Academic Achievement – 60% of members attending 75% of the time will increase their Lexile reading scores	Lexile Test	Lexile Scores	Initial Lexile test administered in September/October with final test administered in April with results available in May
Academic Achievement – 60% of members attending 75% of the time will increase their developmental skill score on the FCAT	FCAT (Florida Comprehensive Achievement Test)	FCAT scores	Final scores are reported in June or July for review
Increased knowledge on the prevention of teen pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases	Program pre-test Program post-test	Test scores	Rotating basis throughout the year

Budget Narrative

The \$131,705 DOE *Computer Literacy Mentoring Program* grant provides funds for the neediest and most disadvantaged youth in Palm Beach County, those youth who attend low-performing schools within the county, and provides them the opportunity to improve their reading their math scores, learn about teen pregnancy, HIV Aids and sexually transmitted disease prevention, as well as improve their overall behaviors and attitudes toward education.

This grant enables the organization to expand Club members' learning capacity through computer-assisted technologies along with Homework Help assistance within the Power Hour Education program which augments our core educational curriculum. I

This grant enables us to hire qualified and certified instructors and assistants to provide instruction for Power Hour and other programs. In addition, we will be able to purchase computer equipment, both hardware and software.

Designed to provide youth with a fun approach to learning Club participants have outperformed their same-school peers who are not in the program. In addition to the educational component, the program also offers youth a wide variety of activities in the Clubs' six core program areas. The core areas include: education and career development; character and leadership development; sports, fitness and recreation; health and life skills; technology; and the arts. The Boys & Girls Clubs cover the majority of the associated administrative costs along with much of the core area program expenses, as well as the facility costs at their clubhouses. The Palm Beach County School Board provides the school-based sites as an in-kind partner. In addition, the Boys & Girls Clubs collaborate with a number of other partners who provide no-cost or low cost equipment, educational curriculum, and mentors.

Based on the State's Funding Request Worksheet, the cost of the overall *Computer Literacy Mentoring Program* is outlined below:

Part-time Core Tech Specialist	24,832.50	
Part-time Tech Assistants	61,490.00	
Part-time Power Hour	13,940.00	
Employee Benefits	15,378.89	
Travel	1,603	
Total Supplies		15,575
Hardware	8,294	
Software	3,800	
Program Supplies	3,812	
Total	\$131,150.39	

The DOE *Computer Literacy Mentoring Program* funds will provide the Boys & Girls Clubs with the resources to impact the lives of hundreds of children and to help them improve their academic standing.

A) PALM BEACH COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

B) Name of Eligible Recipient: _____

<i>TAPS Number</i> 08A305

Project Number: (DOE USE ONLY)

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Budget Narrative Form

(1) OBJEC T	(2) ACCOUNT TITLE AND NARRATIVE	(3) FTE POSITI ON	(4) AMOUNT
7030	Core Tech Specialist		\$25,303
7030	Six part-time technology instructors		\$52,890
7030	Four part-time Power Hour Homework Help assistants		\$14,280
7160/717 0/7180	Taxes and benefits		\$14,135
8470	Gasoline/mileage		\$1,335
8835	Program supplies		\$3,700
8835	Program software		\$8,783
8835	Program hardware		\$11,279
C) TOTAL			\$131,705