

Charter Innovation Funding
-2018 SGT Request Form-

School:	<u>Sawyer Road</u>	Innovation Title:	<u>Collaboration</u>
Amount Requested:	<u>\$10,850</u>	Date of SGT Approval/Vote*:	<u>November 28, 2017</u>

Innovation Rationale: The innovation must be designed to improve student academic achievement in a manner that is aligned with School Improvement Plan goals and/or the school's choice academy focus (K-5). Please reference supporting research, flexibility sought, & SIP/charter goals where applicable.

In the fall 2011 issue of the Stanford Social Innovation Review, Carrie R. Leana, a professor of organizations and management at the University of Pittsburgh, writes about teacher collaboration and social capital. Her research suggests that "Collaboration with colleagues around student instruction is an essential part of every teacher's job and results in rising student achievement. When teachers work together with their colleagues to look at student learning data, use it to determine student learning needs, and then determine their own learning needs based on students need, they design programs that really help improve instruction. That's social capital at its finest."

The gift of time is crucial to maintaining teacher collaboration. Sawyer Road's professional learning has a strong focus on meshing the GA Standards of Excellence (GSE) implementation through the IB PYP framework using differentiated instruction, and establishing an academically challenging environment that promotes rigorous learning. The plan and implementation of staff development is long term and sustainable over time. Professional Learning Communities (PLC) via grade level teams, support staff PLC's, and the Leadership Team PLC have been established to focus on continuous improvement and collaboration. The staff will participate in ongoing professional learning as a staff and in grade level teams. This professional leaning will help improve teacher content knowledge, planning rigorous leaning experiences, and using student assessments to differentiate instruction.

In addition, Sawyer Road was recently awarded a five star school climate rating. This funding would allow for three whole day planning days in the time frame of November-December, February- March, and April-May which would ensure that teachers are allowed ample time to evaluate student data, make adjustments to instruction, rewrite IB planners, and to meet student needs and allow them to grow professionally.

Evaluation: Describe how the initiative will be monitored and evaluated to determine the academic return on investment (ROI).

Each Team will create an agenda that includes:

- Looking at student data and developing/revising common assessments (rigor)
- Discussing IB planners and GSE (relevance)
- Building relationships with colleagues (relationships)

In addition, Student Data will be monitored by the SR Assessment Plan.

*This action must be reflected in the SGT meeting minutes.

**The results of the initiative must be presented at the end of the school year and documented in the SGT meeting minutes.

Budget Summary:

Item	Amount	Per Unit Cost	Total
Kelly Staffing Substitutes	34 Homerooms Teachers	\$106 X 3	\$10,812.00

Total: \$10,812.00

SGT Chair Signature

Principal Signature

Approved _____ Denied _____ (see attached correspondence)

Superintendent's Signature

Date

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**The results of the initiative must be presented at the end of the school year and documented in the SGT meeting minutes.