

**GRANT APPLICATION COVER PAGE (Attachment A)**

Name of Applicant Organization: Nishna Valley Community School District

Address: 58962 380th Street

Hastings, IA 51540

Phone: 712-624-8696 Fax: 712-624-9131

Contact Person: Deborah Taylor

Board of Directors Chairperson of Applicant: Matt Perkins

Is your organization

Private School  Public School

Private Not for Profit  Government

Private for Profit  Other \_\_\_\_\_

Tax Exempt Status [e. 501 C (3)]: \_\_\_\_\_

Federal ID#: 42-6049167

Name of Project: East Mills Middle School Success Club

Target Population of Project:

Category  New Project  Existing Project

Total amount requested from Boost4Families \$ \$20,045

In-Kind Contributions/10% match \$ \$65,755

Other funding secured for this project

TOTAL PROGRAM COST \$ \$85,800

I certify that I am duly authorized to commit and assurances for the applicant, and therefore agree to comply with all the provisions of the Request for Proposal, and to the best of my knowledge, the information contained in this application is correct and complete.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of authorized Officer/Director of Applicant

4/30/09  
Date

Principal  
Title

Attachment B

**BOOST4FAMILIES  
CASS/MILLS/MONTGOMERY  
Prevention, Early Intervention, and Family Well-Being Project  
FY10 Request for Application**

Proposal Check List

Proposal Components	Proposal Page #
<b>Cover Page</b> (Attachment A)	<b>1</b>
<b>Proposal Checklist</b> (Attachment B)	<b>2</b>
<b>Action Plan/Project Narrative</b>	<b>3-5</b>
<b>Budget</b>	<b>6-8</b>
Budget Detail (Attachment C)	<b>6-7</b>
Budget Narrative	<b>8</b>

**Applicant Name:**

Nishna Valley Community School District

# Project Narrative

## **Organization**

Nishna Valley Community School District is a small, rural district in Southwest Iowa. The current district was formed in 1960 when four towns, Emerson, Henderson, Hastings and Strahan consolidated to form the Nishna Valley District. A new building was constructed and occupied in 1963 to house the newly formed district. Enrollment peaked at over 400 students, but like all rural districts in Western Iowa, we have seen steady enrollment declines. The official count on October 1, 2008 was 209 students.

In 2007 Nishna Valley began a whole grade sharing agreement with Malvern Community School District. Grades 9-12 attend East Mills High School at Malvern, and grades 5-8 attend East Mills Middle School at Nishna Valley. Each district maintains its own elementary program. Both are governed by five member boards. The boards meet jointly several times a year to discuss opportunities and concerns.

## **Amount**

The amount requested for the Success Club at East Mills Middle School is \$20,045.

## **Purpose of the Request**

During early adolescence, children go through dramatic physical, emotional, and cognitive changes. After school programs have been shown to help young people navigate early adolescence by providing positive, alternative activities during the hours after school when children in this age group are frequently unsupervised and prone to engage in high-risk behaviors.

Children in working families from rural communities are much less likely than other children to participate in after school programs, primarily because of a lack of programs offered and limited availability of transportation. Only 7% of children in working families in rural communities participate in after school programs. Parents of rural program participants are also much more likely than parents of urban or suburban participants to say that they chose their after school program because no other programs were available.

Twenty-nine percent of Iowa's K-12 youth are responsible for taking care of themselves. These children spend an average of more than 7 hours per week unsupervised after school. In contrast, only 11% of Iowa's K-12 youth participate in after school programs. Nearly 27% of the K-12 youth in self-care would be likely to participate in an after school program if one were available in the community. According to the *America After 3 PM* survey, 25% of all children not in after school programs would be likely to participate if a program were available in the community, regardless of their current care arrangement.<sup>1</sup> Lack of adult supervision and participation in self-care for both children and adolescents have been linked to the increased likelihood of accidents, injuries, lower social competence, lower GPAs, lower achievement test scores, and greater likelihood of participation in high risk activities such as alcohol, tobacco, and drug use and sexual

---

<sup>1</sup> Findings from the America After 3 PM household survey are based on parent/guardian responses to survey questions about after school care arrangements during the 2002-2003 school year; retrieved from: [http://www.afterschoolalliance.org/america\\_3pm.cfm](http://www.afterschoolalliance.org/america_3pm.cfm)

behavior.<sup>2</sup> Teens who are unsupervised during after school hours are 37% more likely to become teen parents.<sup>3</sup>

Students at East Mills Middle School are not immune from the national and state statistics. The Success Club will focus on providing the best opportunity for each child to learn and complete class work through academic support during these critical after school hours. Further, the program will be a lifeline to the district's children to enhance each child's development as a positive, healthy and successful member of our community beyond graduation.

### **Project Detail**

The East Mills Middle School Success Club is an after school program designed to promote academic excellence among all students in the fifth through eighth grades. The Club will be available to any child who wishes to participate but will be especially geared towards those students that struggle with required school work and may be largely unsupervised during the after school hours.

Each day, the children will receive academic support and homework help. Student athletes may join the Success Club at 3:30 p.m. at the conclusion of the regularly scheduled school day. Two East Mills Middle School staff will supervise the Success Program. The Success Club will be held from 3:30 to 4:45p.m. during the school week and bus transportation will be offered to all students at the conclusion of the Club's hours. Two bus routes will be offered: one route will serve students from the Hastings and Malvern communities and another will serve students living in the areas of Henderson and Emerson. The ability to offer transportation is a critical component to the SUCCESS program. Without it, most students would be unable to participate and parents would be less likely to encourage their child's attendance.

### **Target Population**

This program will be offered to all students enrolled at East Mills Middle School in the fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth grades. Anticipated enrollment for the 2009-2010 academic year is 165 students. Participation will be highly recommended for those students on academic probation or students who are ineligible for extracurricular sports and activities as a result of poor academic performance.

### **Project Outcomes**

The over-arching goal of the Success Club is to improve student attendance, behavior, and academic performance while enhancing student bonding to school and community through integrated after-school activities.

---

<sup>2</sup>

Kerrebrock, N. & Lewit, E.M. (1999). Children in self-care. *Future of Children*, 9(2): 151-160.;  
Colwell, M.J., Pettit, G.S., Meece, D., Bates, J.E., & Dodge, K.A. (2001). Cumulative risk and continuity in nonparental care from infancy to early adolescence. *Merrill-Palmer Quarterly*, 47(2): 207-234.;  
Patten, P. & Robertson, A.S. (2001). Focus on after-school time for violence prevention. Washington, DC: Office of Educational Research and Improvement.;  
Synder, H.N. & Sickmund, M. (1999). Juvenile offenders and victims: 1999 national report. Washington, DC: Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Programs.

<sup>3</sup>

United States Department of Education. (2002). No Child Left Behind: The facts about 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning. Retrieved from: <http://www.nochildleftbehind.gov/start/facts/21centlearn.html>.

The Success Club will:

1. Improve academic performance of all participating students and realize a full “No Zero” grade policy for all students.
2. Increase the number of students who rank in the proficient and above ranges for the ITBS and ITED.
3. Decrease in the number of non-illness related absenteeism.
4. Increase the percentage of students participating in after school activities.
5. Achieve a balance of teacher referrals vs. self-initiated participants.
6. Provide safe, reliable transportation home after the Success program for all East Mills Middle School students.

### **Strategies Needed to Implement Project**

Our strategies will be focused on how to increase participation in the Success Club. We seem to have a higher attendance by the fifth and sixth grade students. We need to entice the seventh and eighth graders to attend Success Club. We have had difficulty with parental involvement in the success of some of the students. Many parents will not insist that their student stay for Success Club even if their student is having academic difficulties. Our teachers meet with students and parents when needed and Success Club is always offered as a way to obtain academic assistance.

### **Describe how your organization will sustain the program if Boost4Families funding is decreased**

We will continue the program and look for other grant opportunities.

### **If not fully funded, is the project viable and at what minimum amount**

If not fully funded, we might have to decrease the amount of days that we offer the Success Club.

### **How will you measure your success?**

Each student at East Mills Middle School will be assigned to a teacher-led team of four-school faculty to monitor academic achievement. Each faculty team will complete a report on every assigned child, every two weeks. This team will meet weekly to discuss and identify student needs and make recommendations for participation in the SUCCESS Club. Each team will monitor for its assigned students:

- Attendance record
- ITBS and ITED scores
- Weekly grades and classroom progress

Success Club staff will document the participant numbers for each day as well as the number of students using the after school buses. These figures will be shared weekly with the principal. Participant numbers will be compared with those numbers of students engaged with other after school activities such as sports, music and school events.

### DETAILED BUDGET SAMPLE (Attachment C)

Please follow the budget format below. Each category must include detail line items such as the examples in italics. Must show 10% match, either from other funds or in-kind.

DESCRIPTION OF EXPENSES	PROPOSAL REQUEST	OTHER FUNDING (IDENTIFY SOURCE)	OTHER FUNDING (IDENTIFY SOURCE)	IN-KIND MATCH
<b>Salaries:</b> <i>List # FTE &amp; titles</i> <b>SUBTOTAL</b>	Teacher .46% <b>\$16,720</b>	General Fund .54 Teacher \$19,280 2 paras \$24,000 <b>\$43,280</b>	Tuition \$9,450  <b>\$9,450</b>	
<b>Benefits:</b> <i>FICA</i> <i>IPERS/Retirement</i> <i>Health</i> <i>Dental</i> <i>Other</i> <b>SUBTOTAL</b>		General Fund \$ 4,591 \$ 3,810 \$10,800  <b>\$19,201</b>		
<b>Training/Travel:</b> <i>Registration fees</i> <i>Out of area travel</i> <i>In area travel</i> <b>SUBTOTAL</b>		General Fund \$1,000 \$ 200  <b>\$1,200</b>		
<b>Office Supplies:</b> <i>Postage</i> <i>Printing</i> <i>Supplies</i> <b>SUBTOTAL</b>		General Fund \$ 50 \$100 \$800 <b>\$950</b>		
<b>Program Materials:</b> <i>Curriculum</i> <i>Participant materials</i> <b>SUBTOTAL</b>		General Fund \$200 \$ 50 <b>\$250</b>		
<b>Equipment:</b> <i>Purchase</i> <i>Rental</i> <i>Maintenance</i> <b>SUBTOTAL</b>		General Fund \$ 200  \$ 800 <b>\$1,000</b>		
<b>Purchased Services:</b> <i>Participant Transportation</i> <i>Facility rental</i> <b>SUBTOTAL</b>		General Fund \$2,500  <b>\$2,500</b>		
<b>Subcontract Services:</b> <i>Subcontract with other agencies</i> <b>SUBTOTAL</b>				
<b>Other:</b> <b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>\$16,720</b>	<b>\$68,381</b>		
<b>Indirect Cost (not to exceed 8%)</b>		<b>\$ 6,824</b>		
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$16,720</b>	<b>\$75,205</b>	<b>\$9,450</b>	

## **Budget Narrative**

The proposed budget shown on page 6 provides known expenses. Staff salary is very close to what actual costs will be. Office supplies are estimates based on total costs to the district. Costs for maintenance includes utility cost borne by the district and is estimated by the number and size of the rooms. Transportation reflects a very small portion of district transportation expense for buses. Indirect costs are costs associated with the middle school principal, secretary, nurse and other support staff. The largest in-kind match will come from the district general fund. The amount shown is a mix of state funding and local property tax, with local property tax making up approximately 60% of the total.

## **Attachment D Scoring Sheet**

### **Scoring of Proposals**

A maximum of 100 points may be awarded to each proposal. A minimum average score of 60 or greater is required for the proposal to be considered for funding. See chart below.

Accepted proposals will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Proposal includes details for all sections of the RFP
- Descriptions are clear and understandable
- Descriptions are responsive to the intent of the RFP objectives
- The overall ability of the applicant as judged by the review committee, to successfully complete the project within the proposed schedule. Budget, program plan (narrative) and result of program will be judged by review committee

5-Applicant's proposal is exceptional and exceeds expectations of the RFP

4-Applicant's proposal is superior or slightly exceeds expectations of the RFP

3-Applicant's proposal is satisfactory or marginally meets expectations of the RFP

2-Applicant's proposal is unsatisfactory and contains numerous deficiencies regarding the expectations of the RFP

1-Applicant's proposal is not acceptable regarding the expectations of the RFP

## ATTACHMENT D CONTINUED

<b>PROPOSAL COMPONENT</b>	<b>WEIGHT</b>	<b>POSSIBLE POINTS</b>
COVER PAGE (ATTACHMENT A)	REQUIRED	5 POINTS
CHECKLIST (ATTACHMENT B)	REQUIRED	5 POINTS
BUDGET (ATTACHMENT C)	REQUIRED	10 POINTS
PROPOSAL TO COORDINATOR BY APRIL 30TH	HIGH	10 POINTS
NARRATIVE LIMITED TO 3 PAGES	MODERATE	5 POINTS
ACTION PLAN/PURPOSE OF PROPOSAL	HIGH	25 POINTS
EVALUATION OF PROGRAM	HIGH	15 POINTS
SUSTAINABILTY	HIGH	5 POINTS
FUNDING SOURCES BEYOND BOOST4FAMILIES/10% MATCH	MODERATE	5 POINTS
DOES PROPOSAL FIT WITH BOOST4FAMILIES PRIORITIES	HIGH	15 POINTS