

SSBA - Special Education Schools - Anderson2016

SSIP Overview

Page Last Modified: 10/27/2016

1. Please enter the name of the person to contact regarding this submission.

Christine Wolcott

1a. Please enter a phone number for follow up questions.

845-889-9201

1b. Please enter their e-mail address for follow up contact.

christinewolcott@acenterforautism.org

2. Please indicate below whether this is the first submission or an amended submission of an already approved Smart Schools Investment Plan.

First submission

3. Pursuant to the requirements of the Smart Schools funding, the planning process must include consultation with parents, teachers and students.

By checking the boxes below, you are certifying that you have engaged with those required stakeholders. Each box must be checked prior to submitting your Smart Schools Investment Plan.

- Parents
- Teachers
- Students

4. Certify that the following required steps have taken place by checking the boxes below: Each box must be checked prior to submitting your Smart Schools Investment Plan.

- The Smart Schools Investment Plan was posted on the school website for at least two weeks. The school included an address to which any written comments on the plan should be sent.
- The school board/trustees conducted a hearing that enabled stakeholders to respond to the Plan. This hearing may have occurred as part of a normal Board meeting, but adequate notice of the event must have been provided through the school website for at least two weeks prior to the meeting.
- The final proposed plan that has been submitted has been posted on the school's website and will remain for the duration of the related projects.

4a. Enter the webpage address where the final Smart Schools Investment Plan is posted. The Plan should remain posted for the life of the included projects.

www.andersoncenterforautism.org/smartschools

5. Your school's Smart Schools funding appropriation is:

\$35,180

6. Enter the budget sub-allocations by category that you are submitting for approval at this time. If you are not budgeting Smart Schools funds for a category, please enter 0 (zero.) If the value entered is \$0, you will not be required to complete that survey question.

	Sub-Allocations
School Connectivity	0
Classroom Technology	35,180
Replacement of Transportable Classroom Units	0
High-Tech Security	0
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>35,180</b>

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School Connectivity

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1. Describe how you intend to use Smart Schools funds for high-speed broadband and/or wireless connectivity projects in school buildings.

N/A

2. Describe how the school plans to use digital connectivity and technology to improve teaching and learning.

N/A

3. Does your School Connectivity project require new construction or substantially altered space and result in capitalized cost in excess of \$100,000?

No

4. If you are submitting an allocation for School Connectivity complete this table.  
Note that the calculated Total at the bottom of the table must equal the Total allocation for this category that you entered in the SSIP Overview overall budget.

	Sub-Allocation
Network/Access Costs	0
Outside Plant Costs	0
School Internal Connections and Components	0
Professional Services	0
Testing	0
Other Upfront Costs	0
Other Costs	0
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>0</b>

5. Please detail the type, quantity, per unit cost and total cost of the eligible items under each sub-category. This is especially important for any expenditures listed under the "Other" category. All expenditures must be eligible for tax-exempt financing to be reimbursed with Smart Schools funds. Sufficient detail must be provided so that we can verify this is the case. If you have any questions, please contact us directly through [smartschools@nysed.gov](mailto:smartschools@nysed.gov). Add rows under each sub-category for additional items, as needed.

Select the allowable expenditure type. Repeat to add another item under each type.	Item to be purchased	Quantity	Cost per Item	Total Cost
(No Response)	(No Response)	(No Response)	(No Response)	(No Response)

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## Classroom Learning Technology Equipment (Devices)

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**1. Describe the devices you intend to purchase and their compatibility with existing or planned platforms or systems.**

Anderson has begun to roll out a new educational curriculum in stages, Unique Learning System, and portions of the curriculum are in use as of October 2016. We anticipate that the full curriculum will be in use in school year 2017 – 2018. To get the most benefit from Unique Learning System, we endeavor to upgrade the projectors for interactive white boards in the classrooms and purchase iPad minis for each student enrolled. Interactive white boards have been in continual use in the classrooms since 2009. The projectors are also 7 years old and are nearing the end of their useful life. The iPads would be integrated with the curriculum to engage all students to actively participate in mid-lesson differentiation and allow teachers to complete benchmarks and pre- and post- skills assessments on the fly with student participation.

The curriculum does not require the use of iPads, but it is designed to support the use of tablets to more highly engage students with special needs in instruction and assessments. Once purchased, iPads would be issued to classrooms and integrated into instruction.

Interactive technology has been in use at Anderson Education Center since 2009 with the introduction of interactive whiteboards to all classrooms. The use of the whiteboards continues with the use of Unique Learning System, and once iPads are provided to classrooms, all this equipment and software will be used in conjunction in order to provide a richer academic experience.

**2. Describe how the proposed technology purchases will improve teaching and learning inside or outside of the classroom.**

Anderson Center provides evidence based services to children and adults on the autism spectrum with high levels of care needs. Having recently evaluated our student curriculum within the past year, we have identified that there are alternative curricula that would better meet the various academic, behavioral, and social needs of our students while providing students individualized, differentiated lessons that are paced at the learner's speed. We identified one such curriculum that would be most appropriate to use with our student population. "Unique Learning System", an online, standards-based set of interactive tools specifically designed for students with special needs, allows for various levels of functioning within one classroom and provides interactive engagement with students in both educational and assessment areas. This curriculum would be paired with technology in the classroom, including currently available interactive white boards and iPads that will be purchased for student use.

Students are assigned to classrooms based on various assessments including academic, behavioral, age, and peer group. These assessments occur at regular intervals throughout the school year and are performed by teachers and aides with input from the support team of the students' treatment providers. Assessments are critical to the education and treatment provided to our students but they are time consuming and pull resources away from instruction. We have identified tools to more effectively educate and assess student progress by allowing for student collaborative instruction that fosters increased comprehension and provides assessment data that are more accurate, timely, and relevant.

Difficulties encountered by faculty during class time include the need for mid-lesson differentiation, resource constraints when working with a student who needs extra help, and time limitations when performing assessments of quality. Though students are assigned classes based on ability, intellect, and social interaction, among other criteria, there still exist varying levels of comprehension for students within the class. Currently, when one student doesn't comprehend the material as quickly as the others, the teacher must revisit the troublesome material, sometimes causing other students to lose interest or become distracted. This can result in behavioral issues in the classroom which can deteriorate the quality of instruction.

Resource constraints sometimes limit the one-on-one time teachers and aides can dedicate to an individual student, particularly when the rest of the class has achieved comprehension of the material. Unique Learning System would offer tools to faculty to help students who need more assistance without leaving the rest of the class waiting. When integrated with iPads for students to learn at their own pace, the use of Unique Learning System will provide richer and more meaningful instruction for all students.

Projectors used with the interactive white boards are nearing the end of their useful life, causing issues with lesson plans and frustrated faculty. This equipment must be replaced in order to continue to provide high quality educational services to Anderson's students.

The impact of this project is anticipated to be richer educational instruction for all students that is offered at their own learning pace. An additional anticipated impact would be improvements in the quality of assessments carried out as part of student evaluations due to direct student participation and the ability to perform assessments quickly and accurately, and to input this information into database systems on the fly. We also expect that this flexible curriculum would reduce behaviors in the classroom because students would be less likely to have to wait for others to catch up on a subject matter and would be engaged more fully throughout instruction.

Many students enrolled at Anderson are tech savvy, but there remains a large percentage of our student population who have little or no technology experience. Helping our students to develop technology skills that can be used in various life, work, and recreational activities opens their world to many new opportunities and learning experiences. Preparing our students for life beyond Anderson Education Center is one of our top priorities, and engaging our youngsters in the use of technology as a normal, day-to-day activity builds their skills, confidence, and their own internal resources.

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- 3. **To ensure the sustainability of technology purchases made with Smart Schools funds, schools must have a plan to maintain and support technology purchases reimbursed with Smart Schools funds. This sustainability plan should support recurring costs of use that are ineligible for Smart Schools funding such as device maintenance, technical support, Internet and wireless fees, maintenance of hotspots, staff professional development, building maintenance and the replacement of incidental items.**

By checking this box, you certify that the school has a sustainability plan as described above.

- 4. **Schools must ensure that devices purchased with Smart Schools funds will be distributed, prepared for use, maintained and supported appropriately. Schools must maintain detailed device inventories in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.**

By checking this box, you certify that the school has a distribution and inventory management plan and system in place.

- 5. **Schools must contact the SUNY/CUNY teacher preparation program that supplies the largest number of the its new teachers to request advice on innovative uses and best practices at the intersection of pedagogy and educational technology.**

By checking this box, you certify that you have contacted the SUNY/CUNY teacher preparation program that supplies the largest number of your new teachers to request advice on these issues.

- 5a. **Please enter the name of the SUNY or CUNY Institution that you contacted.**

New Paltz

- 5b. **Enter the primary Institution phone number.**

845-257-2804

- 5c. **Enter the name of the contact person with whom you consulted and/or will be collaborating with on innovative uses of technology and best practices.**

Karen Bell

- 6. **If you are submitting an allocation for Classroom Educational Technology, complete this table. Note that the calculated Total at the bottom of the table must equal the Total allocation for this category that you entered in the SSIP Overview overall budget.**

	Sub-Allocation
Interactive Whiteboards	12,433
Computer Servers	0
Desktop Computers	0
Laptop Computers	0
Tablet Computers	22,747
Other Costs	0
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>35,180</b>

- 7. **Please detail the type, quantity, per unit cost and total cost of the eligible items under each sub-category. This is especially important for any expenditures listed under the "Other" category. All expenditures must be capital bond eligible to be reimbursed with Smart Schools funds. If you have any questions, please contact us directly through [smartschools@nysed.gov](mailto:smartschools@nysed.gov).**

Add rows under each sub-category for additional items, as needed.

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Select the allowable expenditure type. Repeat to add another item under each type.	Item to be purchased	Quantity	Cost per Item	Total Cost
Tablet Computers	Personalized iPad Air 2 Wi-Fi 32GB - Space Gray (10-pack)	6	4,540	27,240
Interactive Whiteboards	Projector PRM-45 upgrade for V3	22	550	12,433

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Replace/Modernize Transportable Classrooms

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1. Describe the school's plan to construct, enhance or modernize education facilities to provide high-quality instructional space by replacing transportable classrooms.

N/A

2. Does your Classroom Trailer project require new construction or substantially altered space and result in capitalized cost in excess of \$100,000?

No

3. If you have made an allocation for Replace Transportable Classrooms, complete this table. Note that the calculated Total at the bottom of the table must equal the Total allocation for this category that you entered in the SSIP Overview overall budget.

	Sub-Allocation
Construct New Instructional Space	0
Enhance/Modernize Existing Instructional Space	0
Other Costs	0
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>0</b>

4. Please detail the type, quantity, per unit cost and total cost of the eligible items under each sub-category. This is especially important for any expenditures listed under the "Other" category. All expenditures must be capital bond eligible to be reimbursed with Smart Schools funds. If you have any questions, please contact us directly through [smartschools@nysed.gov](mailto:smartschools@nysed.gov).

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(No Response)	(No Response)	(No Response)	(No Response)	(No Response)

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High-Tech Security Features

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1. Describe how you intend to use Smart Schools funds to install high-tech security features in school buildings and on school campuses.

N/A

2. Does your High-Tech Security project require new construction or substantially altered space and result in capitalized cost in excess of \$100,000?

No

3. If you have made an allocation for High-Tech Security Features, complete this table. Note that the calculated Total at the bottom of the table must equal the Total allocation for this category that you entered in the SSIP Overview overall budget.

	Sub-Allocation
Electronic Security System	0
Entry Control System	0
Approved Door Hardening Project	0
Other Costs	0
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>0</b>

4. Please detail the type, quantity, per unit cost and total cost of the eligible items under each sub-category. This is especially important for any expenditures listed under the "Other" category. All expenditures must be capital bond eligible to be reimbursed with Smart Schools funds. If you have any questions, please contact us directly through [smartschools@nysed.gov](mailto:smartschools@nysed.gov). Add rows under each sub-category for additional items, as needed.

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