

Application for Funding – Cover Page

Applicant Agency

Business Name	Devils Lake High School	Street Address Including City, State, and ZIP Code	1601 College Drive North, Devils Lake, ND 58301
Contact Person	Ryan Hanson	Title	Principal
Phone	701-662-1200	Email	ryan.hanson@dlschools.org
Authorized Representative	Ned Clooten	Title	Superintendent
Phone	701-662-7640	Email	Ned.clooten@dlschools.org
Federal Employer Tax Id #	45-6001342	Unique Entity Identifier #	ZSBMD5ER7A75
Dates of Active Registration in System for Award Management			Click or tap here to enter text.

Targeted Intervention(s) to be Implemented

Adapted Check and Connect Framework, 7 Mindsets for student SEL, Vital Networks for staff SEL, Career Exploration Programming, Attendance Messaging and Celebrations, and Staff Professional Development with focus on School Culture and Student Attendance.

Total Amount of Funding Request

87600

Willing to Accept Less Funding (Y/N)

Y

Evidenced-Based Program/Services (Y/N)

Y

Name and Source of Evidenced-Based Program/Services

Vital Networks, MTSS, Check and Connect, Family School Mentors, Professional Counseling, Tobacco Cessation Programming, 7 Mindsets, and Job Shadowing.

School(s) or School District to be Served

Devils Lake High School

Estimated Number of Youth to be Served

530

Estimated Number of Minority Youth to be Served

160

Signature

Ned Clooten

Signature of the Person Submitting this Form

Name

Ned Clooten

Name of the Person Submitting this Form (print)

DLHS Grant Application

Program Narrative

This application is being submitted by Devils Lake High School (DLHS). Devils Lake is located in Ramsey County.

Absenteeism continues to be a significant challenge for Devils Lake High School. For the 2024-2025 school year, absenteeism rates are at an all-time high, with increasing numbers of students missing critical instructional time. To address this issue, targeted interventions and comprehensive support systems are urgently needed to re-engage students and reduce chronic absenteeism.

This proposal includes five School-Based Interventions to be Implemented:

1. Adapted Check & Connect Framework

An evidence-based program, "Check & Connect," has demonstrated success in improving student engagement and reducing absenteeism. While DLHS does not plan to implement the program in its entirety, this grant would support the adoption of key components, including:

- **Regular Monitoring:** Continuous tracking of student attendance, behavior, and academic performance to identify at-risk students early.
 - Would include utilization of the Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS) team.
 - Continued work with Family School Mentors.
- **Individualized Intervention:** Tailored support for students to address barriers to attendance, such as transportation, mental health concerns, or academic challenges.
 - Continued work with Family School Mentors and youth prevention mentor.
 - Contract with Lifewise Counseling Services.
 - Work with Ramsey County District Health tobacco cessation.
- **Engagement Strategies:** Active communication with students and families to set goals, celebrate progress, and foster accountability.
 - Would host 'family time' for 5-7 families each month starting with those with students most at-risk. Would tie in childcare and additional items through student volunteer hours to enable families to attend.
 - DLHS students can earn volunteer cords for graduation, so this is a fairly easy tie-in with additional volunteerism opportunities.
 - Phone calls, emails and post cards to families regarding positive information about their student. Fill buckets rather than dip!

Projected Outcomes for DLHS:

- Increased daily attendance.
- Reduced rates of chronic absenteeism.
- Enhanced student engagement and stronger connections to the school community.

Data Collection and Performance Measurement:

- Student attendance (average daily membership).
- Established grade check periods.
- Detention log, Parent Contact log, Behavioral log entries.

2. Continued implementation of the 7 Mindsets for student Social Emotional Learning.

DLHS will continue to implement 7 Mindsets to improve school climate and reinforce positive behaviors while addressing absenteeism.

- Proactive strategies to define, teach, and support appropriate student behaviors.
 - 7 Mindsets planning team and MTSS team
- Recognition and rewards for attendance and engagement.
 - Will do at Firebird of the Month.
- Data-driven identification and support for at-risk students.
 - MTSS Team will assist in identification.
- Investigate the potential of enhancing what we already do with the 7 Mindsets organization. Potential for even more customized support with additional funds.
- Work with the Lead Birds (student group who volunteers to be a part of a student committee to increase the positive culture of our school).

Projected Outcomes:

- Decreases in absenteeism due to improved school culture and student engagement.
- Lower suspension and detention rates and improved academic performance.
- Increase school spirit, tutoring options, and student mentoring ~ Lead Birds.

Data Collection and Performance Measurement:

- Student attendance (average daily membership).
- Suspension rate.
- Detention rate.
- Overall academic performance.
- Volunteer hours reported for mentoring/tutoring by Lead Bird group.

3. Career Exploration Program

DLHS will implement a Career Exploration Program to inspire student engagement and provide relevance to their educational experience. The program includes:

- Messaging focused on career readiness.
- Job shadowing opportunities with local professionals.
- Industry-specific skill development aligned with cooperative work experiences.
- Hire Ann Pollert to lead the job shadowing program.
- Work with University of Jamestown Education Department Chair Dr. Jeffrey Stotts to develop a program to encourage at-risk high school students to become educators in the future. We will develop a partnership with the University which will include visits from UJ students/staff to DLHS and vice versa.
- Potentially work with T-4 for a summit prior to 2028-2029 school year.
- Building Leaders Day – coordinate with U of Mary, Rod Jonas and U of Jamestown, Jeffrey Stotts along with several Devils Lake leaders to bring in a full day of speakers for our students.
- Scott Klett, DLHS Counselor will continue to work with industry and colleges to set up 'lunch-time booths'.
- Strategy to promote work-based learning opportunities and cooperative work experiences.
- Fall Career Fair in conjunction with Parent-Teacher Conferences.

- Summer Job Fair in March each year.

Projected Outcomes:

- The intervention aims to have 90% of students in grades 9-12 participate in career exploration activities.
- Expose all students in grades 9-12 to potential future careers/education.
- Put hope in the hearts and minds of our students ~ show them what they can be!

Data Collection and Performance Measurement:

- Student attendance.
- Job shadow participation.
- CTE course enrollments.
- ND State scholarship. Number of students career ready.
- Statistics/data from Ann Pollert.

4. Attendance Messaging and Celebrations

This initiative will motivate students to attend school regularly through incentives and positive reinforcement.

- Launch an "Attendance Matters" campaign with monthly rewards such as gift cards or recognition ceremonies for students demonstrating improved or perfect attendance. This initiative will integrate with the "Firebird of the Month" program.
- Create a system where students earn privileges such as access to special events, DLHS gear, or lunches with school leaders.
- Partner with local businesses to sponsor attendance prizes, fostering community involvement.
- Organize celebratory events to recognize students with improved attendance and behavior records.

Projected Outcomes:

- Improve attendance by rewarding consistent participation.

Data Collection and Performance Measurement:

- Student attendance (average daily membership).

5. Staff Professional Development Focused on School Culture and Absenteeism

DLHS will engage professional trainers to assist staff with professional development focused on:

- Creative ways to increase classroom relevance and engagement.
- Creating value in each day for students.
- Fostering an "I don't want to miss this" energy within the school.
- Creating an elite culture at DLHS.
- Further our work with Vital Networks to enhance staff social emotional status. Potential to customize what we already do with Vital with increased funding.
- Partner with Dr. David Arencibia, NASSP National Principal of the Year finalist in 2023 and Texas Principal of the Year in 2022. We will work to elevate our culture as a school through our work with him.

Projected Outcomes:

- Increase staff skill sets and resources available.

Data Collection and Performance Measurement:

- Student attendance.

Existing Efforts at Devils Lake High School include:

- Daily calls home to families with chronic absenteeism began in January 2025 to address absences promptly.
- Mini incentives for attendance have been incorporated into the "Firebird of the Month" initiative.
- A pilot job shadow program has been created for sophomores.
- A fall career fair has successfully increased student interest and boosted parent-teacher conference attendance significantly.
- The principal and administration staff have committed to integrating new activities to address absenteeism.

The overarching goal of this project is to create a more engaged student body while reducing absenteeism. Through these targeted interventions and support systems, Devils Lake High School aims to:

- Foster a positive and inclusive school environment.
- Empower students with the tools and motivation needed to attend school regularly.
- Strengthen connections between students, families, and the broader community.

Community Partnerships and Expanded School-Community Connections

Collaborations with local businesses, Lake Region State College, and the Devils Lake Area Chamber of Commerce will host tours, engage students with community members, business leaders, and offer dual-enrollment courses. Engaging students with community members will foster a sense of involvement, belonging, and inclusion.

Strengthening ties between schools and the broader community will create a sense of accountability and belonging. Engaged students feel connected to something larger, reducing absenteeism and fostering pride in their school and community.

Strategies:

- Host career days and job shadowing programs to link schoolwork to future goals.
- Partner with community leaders to participate in school events such as booths, activities, leadership programs, and career exploration days.
- Engage parents in activities to build stronger home-school collaboration, including incentives to increase attendance at back-to-school nights and parent-teacher conferences.
- Partner with Vital, Dr. Arencibia, and the University of Jamestown to develop unique means to enhance our culture for students and staff while developing an over-arching theme that being present everyday is vital for everyone's success.

Timeline**February 2025–September 2025:**

- Research and planning to identify trends in absenteeism, such as specific classes, teachers, or days (e.g., early outs) where rates are higher.
- Develop a team to generate ideas for project incentives.

September 2025–August 2027

- Implement and carry out all 5 school-based interventions outlined in the grant.

Budget Summary

Applicant: Devils Lake High School

Project Period: May 2025 to August 2027

	Grant Request	Match	Total
Budget Categories:			
Personnel	43,000.00	2,000.00	43,000.00
Fringe Benefits	-	-	-
Travel	18,000.00	-	18,000.00
Supplies	10,200.00	7,500.00	17,700.00
Subaward/Contractual	14,900.00	-	14,900.00
Other Direct Costs	1,500.00	1,500.00	3,000.00
Indirect Costs	-	-	-
Total Grant Funds	87,600.00	11,000.00	96,600.00

Budget Detail Worksheet and Narrative

Applicant: Devils Lake High School

Project Period: May 2025 to August 2027

Personnel				Total Grant Period		
Position	Name	Annual Salary	Grant Allocation %	Grant Request	Match	Total
Career Exploration Coordinator	Ann Pollert	10,000	1	\$10,000	\$0	\$10,000
Culture Elevation (consultant fees)	Dr. David Arencibia	13,000	1	\$13,000	\$0	\$13,000
MTSS Team	7 members	14,000	1	\$14,000	\$0	\$14,000
Lead Family nights	Raechel Newgard	2,000	1	\$2,000	\$0	\$2,000
May-June 2025 planning	Committee Members	4,000	1	\$4,000	\$2,000	\$4,000
Total Personnel Costs				\$43,000	\$2,000	\$43,000

Personnel Narrative:

We would hire Ann Pollert to lead the Career Exploration piece. Dr. David Arencibia would be our first choice to elevate the culture at DLHS. We are uncertain if we can procure him at \$650/day but we would make every attempt to do so. We would look to have our MTSS team work outside the contracted hours on numerous occasions to lead family engagement events and prep for full staff PD. Tammy and Raechel would be hired outside of their contract to plan/lead events.

Fringe Benefits				Total Grant Period		
Position	Name	Annual Benefits	Grant Allocation %	Grant Request	Match	Total
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			#DIV/0!			
Total Fringe Benefits				\$0	\$0	\$0

Fringe Benefits Narrative:

Travel			Total Grant Period		
Purpose	Location	Expense Type (Hotel/Mileage/Per Diem)	Grant Request	Match	Total
Culture elevation PD	Devils Lake	Hotel/Airfare/per diem	\$12,000	\$0	\$12,000
Busing families to events	Devils Lake	mileage/drivers	\$5,000	\$0	\$5,000
Transporting of students	Devils Lake	mileage	\$1,000	\$0	\$1,000
Total Travel Costs			\$18,000	\$0	\$18,000

Travel Costs Narrative:

Culture travel would be for Dr. Arencibia if he was willing to spend a school week in Devils Lake (four times over the course of the grant). We would need to support the at-risk student families by assisting them getting to DLHS. We would run a bus or other types of transportation along with a driver at least once each month. The MTSS team would facilitate some of this along with other staff members.

Supplies			Total Grant Period		
Item	Quantity	Per Unit Cost	Grant Request	Match	Total
Culture items for all students (t-shirt)	530.00	\$15	\$7,950	\$3,000	\$10,950
Attendance prizes month/quarter/semester/year	100.00	\$10	\$1,000	\$2,000	\$3,000
Signage/attendance matters/culture (classrooms/hallways)	50.00	\$25	\$1,250	\$2,500	\$3,750
Total Supply Costs			\$10,200	\$7,500	\$17,700

Supply Costs Narrative:

The t-shirt would be early in the year prior to homecoming so each student in every class could feel an immediate part of school whether they have always attending in Devils Lake or are brand new to our school system. The attendance items would be garnered throughout our community. Small prizes students earn by attending. We would look to have business/individuals support this by donating 2/3's the cost of the items - hoping this would be gift cards at our businesses. We believe we can make the signage within our own walls to deter some of the cost.

Subawards/Contracts		Total Grant Period		
Description/Purpose	Computation	Grant Request	Match	Total
PD for staff - classroom engagement	Cost of the speaker/substitutes	\$3,300	\$0	\$3,300
PD for staff - making attendance matter	Cost of the speaker/substitutes	\$3,300	\$0	\$3,300
PD for staff - proactive classroom management	Cost of the speaker/substitutes	\$3,300	\$0	\$3,300
Building Leaders Day/other supportive work	UJ/U Mary costs	\$5,000	\$0	\$5,000
Total Subaward/Contractual Costs		\$14,900	\$0	\$14,900
Subaward/Contractual Costs Narrative: Would attempt to bring in specialists for 2-day periods to work with all staff. \$1300 for the speaker and then a likely \$2000/day for substitute teacher costs. Work with two universities to determine best ways to coordinate together and find unique ways to make DLHS students more successful.				

Other Direct Costs		Total Grant Period		
Type	Computation	Grant Request	Match	Total
Supplies	Training materials, standard office supplies, paper, large post-it items, markers, etc...	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$3,000
Total Other Direct Costs		\$1,500	\$1,500	\$3,000
Other Direct Costs Narrative:				

Indirect Costs			Total Grant Period		
Description	Base	Rate	Grant Request	Match	Total
Total Indirect Costs			\$0	\$0	\$0
Indirect Cost Narrative:					