

Side Letter: Voluntary Innovation Grants for 2015-16

The State of California is offering school districts one time funding to be made available beginning the 2015 -2016 school year. Morgan Hill Unified School District is offering innovation grants to teachers in the district. The purpose of these grants is to fund projects that improve student learning, promote student achievement, and/or increase services for students. Projects should include extended student services or extended collaboration for the purpose of improving student outcomes. Individual school sites, Professional Learning Communities, grade level teams or subject area departments may apply for a grant through the district. Grants will be awarded in an amount that would cover teachers' work outside of the regular work day, program expenses, and other district resources that may be needed to implement the program.

Grant applications will include a detailed description of the services/collaborative work, students served, instructional materials, district resources, and measurable student outcomes. Grant applications will be reviewed three times each school year. The following items need to be addressed in the grant application.

- 1. Statement of Need/Philosophy:**
- 2. Description of Project for Improving Student Outcomes:**
- 3. Measurable Outcomes: (students & staff)**
- 4. Affected Personnel: (team composition, duties, responsibilities)**
- 5. Students: (number involved, grade level(s), subject(s), students targeted for improved services)**
- 6. Implementation Timeline:**
- 7. Evaluation Plan (including measurable results):**
- 8. Support Resources Needed: (if any)**
- 9. Amount of Grant Requested with Budget:**
- 10. Other notes:**

You must include a signature page of agreement that includes all affected personnel, including site administrator(s).

A joint panel of District and MHFT representatives will be convened three times a year to award District Innovation Grants and review grant evaluations. Upon completion of the project an evaluation summary must be submitted to this joint panel.