

## PROJECT ABSTRACT

**Authorized Agent:** Triangle Math and Science Academy (TMSA)

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**Need:** From the most gifted to the academically disadvantaged or at-risk students, there is a rising need for educators to serve all students better in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) across the United States. In Wake County, NC parents are looking for alternatives for their children's education, proven by the long student waiting lists for charter schools. According to NC School Report Cards for 10/11 in Wake County, only 18% of elementary, 3% of middle, and 12% of high schools made Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) as required by NCLB. Need for schools that deliver a rigorous curriculum, focus on accountability, and actively participate in competitive extra-curricular programs have been even a larger concern of all educators and stakeholders. Therefore, new and promising educational approaches, especially focusing on STEM, should be explored or supported.

**Project:** This project is aiming to provide implementation support for K-12 grades and building costs at TMSA, in Raleigh, NC. TMSA has been approved by NC Board of Education on March 1<sup>st</sup> 2012 to open its doors in August 2012. We have only relied on community and parental support to recruit students and staff and prepare to open in such a short period of time. The school will continue to use this support, prepare its classes with furniture, equipment, materials, and supplies. Our focus on STEM would greatly benefit from this grant to provide the teachers and the students with necessary tools and equipment to be successful. .

Furthermore, The Charter School program funds will be used to offset basic costs, such as textbooks, desks, computers, curriculum materials, technology needs, science lab equipment, and other necessary equipment and materials, in able to run an effective, high quality K-12 public school in Wake County. Most importantly, we are requesting funds to install data cabling, set up two state of the art computer labs and media center to help prepare our students to careers in the science and technology fields and equip classrooms with more advanced instructional technologies to help improve the effectiveness of the instruction in the classroom at all levels.

TMSA's inquiry-based curriculum offers math, science, and technology learning opportunities for students to develop the capacity to succeed in college and pursue challenging scientific careers, through research-based and proven teaching methods; performance based accountability measures; and dedicated leadership. In order to achieve this goal, we are requesting funds to provide professional development opportunities and dedicated planning time as we grow and expand our faculty. We anticipate that results from TMSA student accountability will meet or exceed our charter objectives and result in high performance in state mandated measurements. We measure our students' progress with many strategies that assess and evaluate student performance at the individual, classroom, state, and national levels.

Our approach to extra-curricular activities is one of the most unique features of our program. Among others TMSA supports and promotes clubs, such as, robotics, Math Olympiad, Lego league, science competitions and Olympiads, Future City Design and programs. Our program will not only increase student interaction, but also prepare students to work collaboratively in diverse environments, develop important skills for securing employment, and promote responsible citizenship.

We believe that this grant will make a world of difference in our school and surrounding North Carolina Communities and **we are requesting \$ 778,193.00 for the first three school years.**