

Request for Proposal (RFP)

Background

The Cleveland Metropolitan School District, CMSD, is located in Cleveland, Ohio and operates 114 schools. The CMSD is the second largest PreK-12 district in the state, with a 2007-2008 enrollment of approximately 50,300 students. CMSD is facing daunting challenges in the work of transforming underachieving schools into institutions of academic excellence. The District is calling upon our community to join our efforts to provide enhanced educational opportunities and resources for our students that prepare them for success in the 21st century. Our children are in need of additional services and resources to help them see beyond the desolation that surrounds their homes, their schools and their communities.

Strategic community partnerships have proven to help CMSD in our quest to reach our primary goal of becoming a premier school district in the United States of America. Partners will provide resources and services for CMSD students and schools to make a significant impact on student achievements. For these reasons, CMSD is seeking to develop, align and cultivate more partnerships within the community, including local service agencies, regional businesses, academic support organizations and life skills training and resources.

Purpose

In an effort to better serve its students, the Cleveland Metropolitan School District is seeking proposals from qualified individuals, organizations and businesses. CMSD is seeking proposals that promise to deliver significant results on the most pressing issues facing Cleveland schools and will increase student, family and community engagement. To meet this goal, CMSD plans to develop a strong strategic community of partnerships through implementation of as many proposed projects it can.

Submission Timeline

Proposals for strategic partnerships must be received at the Cleveland Metropolitan School District office by no later than the following dates:

May 9th - for programs to be implemented during the 1st and/or 2nd semester of school
October 9th - for programs to be implemented during 2nd semester of school
March 9th - for programs to be implemented during summer vacation

- First day of 1st semester: August 27th
- First day of 2nd semester: January 25th
- First day of summer vacation: June 9th

CMSD Strategic Community of Partnerships Proposal Requirements

Proposals will address urgent issues facing Cleveland schools and must serve to promote student, family and community engagement directly or indirectly. Such proposals will: (1) encourage and support active parental and community involvement in the education of CMSD students; (2)

provide CMSD students with positive academic and nonacademic activities; (3) incentivize CMSD students to excel in academics, attendance, behavior and school and community involvement; (4) incentivize teachers to provide excellent learning environments. It is anticipated that projects inline with the following characteristics will be approved by CMSD:

- **In School Programs**
Drug awareness, self-esteem/empowerment building, financial literacy, vocational learning
- **After School Programs**
Art, chess, choir, dance, theatre, mentoring, internships, athletics, tutoring
- **Incentive programs**
Contests that provide awards, prizes, recognition, scholarships and opportunities which motivate students and teachers to improve achievement in the following content areas: attendance, reading, writing, science, math, citizenship
- **Events**
Festivals, field trips, group outings to sporting events, circus events, picnics.
- **Other**
Summer programs, summer camps, jobs

Selection Criteria

Proposals must meet the following requirements, to ensure benefits from CMSD:

1. Proposed project should not already exist in the CMSD School.
2. Proposal should meet the need for at least one CMSD school. Proposal should be aligned with the school's specific academic achievement plan (available on the school building webpage or from the building principal). A proposal that provides essential services to schools most in need or demonstrates the potential to assist economically disadvantaged families will be given preference.
3. Proposal has adequate funding (i.e. sponsorship, grant, fundraising opportunities and will provide leverage to the CMSD).
4. Proposal has specifically stated goals, anticipated results and explains how the work will significantly contribute to meeting the above listed CMSD Proposal requirements.

Ideally, proposed projects must meet the above requirements. However, if it does not, there may be alternatives that could satisfy the requirements. In order to meet the goal of opening new areas of inquiry, CMSD will consider projects that have a viable proposal that requires minimal support.