

Mesquite ISD Education Foundation  
Grant Application

Campus Grant

District Grant

Title of Project: Freshman Orientation Camp

Subject(s):

Total Dollar Amount Requested: \$2,500

Number of Students Involved: 550

Number of Employees Involved: 15

Date of Implementation: August 2010

Expected Completion Date: August 2010

Summary of Grant Request - Describe who will do what, why, when, where, and how.

Ninth grade students will be prepared to approach their first day of high school with the knowledge, skills, and confidence needed in order to be successful by attending a one-day Freshmen Orientation Camp. The camp, which will be held two weeks prior to the first day of school, will assist students during this critical transition from middle school to high school. Information will be presented by selected upperclassmen.

Through a series of six 30-minute sessions, students will receive a tour and orientation of the campus, be introduced to teachers and administrators, and learn the school song, motto, and other campus information. They will also be introduced to the clubs and organizations offered and be encouraged to find their niche. Study skills and time-management skills will also be presented. The camp will conclude with a pep rally which will feature the band, cheerleaders, and drill team.

Campus / Department: West Mesquite High School

Name of Applicant(s): Linda Lentz

Principal Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Grant Applications should be submitted to:

Linda Lentz  
Education Foundation Office  
PDC, Suite 300  
Phone: 972-882-7513  
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For Office Use Only:

Date Received: \_\_\_\_\_

Curriculum & Instruction: \_\_\_\_\_

Technology: \_\_\_\_\_

# Grant Application

## **Name of Project: Freshmem Orientation Camp 2010**

Narrative should be clear and concise. Do not refer to any specific campus, person, or use identifying terms. No addendums are to be added to the application. Do not use a font size lower than 10 points.

**Description** – Explain what you will do. Tell how the project has the potential to significantly impact student learning.

Ninth grade students will attend a one-day Freshmen Orientation Camp to help them transition from middle school to high school. The camp will be held at the high school campus two weeks prior to the start of the new school year and will be presented by upperclassmen.

Students will receive an orientation of the campus, be introduced to teachers and administrators, learn the school song, motto, and other campus information. They will be introduced to the clubs and organizations and encouraged to find their niche. Study skills and time-management skills will also be presented.

The camp will conclude with a pep rally which will feature the band, cheerleaders, and drill team. As a result, freshmen will approach their first day of high school with more knowledge of the campus and the expectations of them as well as confidence to succeed during this critical year.

**Rationale** – Explain the need this proposal will address and how it will improve student learning and performance.

Freshmen come to this particular high school campus from three different middle schools. The diversity can work as a disadvantage in that students do not arrive with a sense of pride and ownership in the school. Bringing all the freshmen together and educating them on the campus culture and expectations is vital to instilling this sense of pride in the school.

Most freshmen choose a path their first year which determines the outcome of their future years. The Freshmen Orientation Camp will provide students the opportunity to learn the skills needed to have a successful high school experience. Not only will the freshmen students benefit, but the entire campus will be affected due to the positive results of the camp!

**Objectives** - List (use bullets, numbers, . . . ) specific objectives. When possible, make objectives measurable.

- Increase student success personally, academically, and socially
- Increase student morale and overall school culture and climate
- Reduce discipline and attendance problems
- Develop and inspire leaders and mentors
- Foster a sense of school pride and ownership among the students

**Activities / Implementation Plan** – List (use bullets, numbers, ...) activities that will be utilized to achieve objectives.

- Student leaders for the camp will be selected from clubs, organizations, and by teacher recommendations.
- Camp sponsors (teachers and administrators) will spend three days training upperclassmen to lead and mentor freshmen.
- Incoming freshmen students will be notified of the camp and encouraged to attend by notices mailed to them.
- During the camp, freshmen will receive a campus tour given by upperclassmen.
- Upperclassmen will hold six 30-minute break-out sessions on the following topics:
  - \* Respect and Pride (our school motto)
  - \* Study Habits/Time Management
  - \* Making Positive Choices
  - \* Setting and Meeting Goals
  - \* Campus Expectations for Success
  - \* Developing Positive Relationship and Teamwork
- \* The camp sponsors and student leaders will meet the following day to discuss the success of camp and make notes for improvement for the next year.

**If applicable, identify any school or community partners involved in the project and their roles.**

Cici's Pizza will partner with the campus in this endeavor by providing free pizza, salad, and drinks for the camp.

**Evaluation** – List (use bullets, numbers, ...) measurable criteria to be used and state their relation to objectives and activities.

- The number of freshmen students with failing grades for the first six-weeks will be decreased compared to the previous year.
- The number of freshmen who indicate an interest in a club or organization will increase compared to the previous year.
- The number of freshmen involved in school activities, clubs, and organizations will increase compared to the previous year.
- The number of Discipline Referrals of freshmen students will be lower than in the previous year.
- The Attendance Rates of freshmen will be higher than in the previous year.
- The number of freshmen who indicate they would like to become future camp leaders will increase.
- The number of freshmen who become student leaders in other areas will increase compared to the previous year.

**Budget** - Detail your budget request in order of priority. Include specific information, such as what materials and equipment will be needed, sources of supply, cost, (including shipping/handling, etc.). List separately any additional materials that may be required from the District to implement this initiative.

**If this grant is approved, all expenditure receipt copies must be attached to a written final evaluation and returned to the Mesquite ISD Education Foundation on no later than 10 days prior to the last day of school.**

QTY	ITEM	SUPPLIER	COST
4	School buses to transport students to camp	MISD Transportation	300.00
450	Student Planners	Premier Planners	1,687.50
350	Folders	Ennis Office Supply	367.50
	Training and Camp supplies (poster paper, envelopes and index cards)	Office Depot	45.00
	Decorations (balloons, streamers for pep rally)	Party City	100.00
		Total:	2,500