

Building a Small Group Budget

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EAD-510-O501

10/11/2022/

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I recently developed a budget for my school's Fine and Performing Arts Program (FAPA). The current budget for the school year 2022-2023 is \$79,000. I propose increasing the budget by \$25,000, bringing the total to \$104,000. The FAPA program has had to be scaled down over the last several years because a significant portion of the school's budget has been allocated to addressing technical issues related to virtual learning. The school has guaranteed that each student has a personal laptop and internet access at home for those who cannot afford it. I feel that we should review the FAPA budget and the potential of achieving the school's purpose now that we are returning to routine.

The FAPA department will spend \$50,000 on perishable equipment and \$29,000 on nonperishable equipment. The budget must be increased by \$25,000 to increase our nonperishable equipment, which will benefit all children. The FAPA department needs a technical software upgrade immediately. The utilized software is obsolete and hardly functional. However, fifty percent of the curriculum utilizes these editing software tools for all courses, including photography, graphic design, and dance. Unfortunately, the program takes too long to load, and students have difficulty signing in before class concludes. The new software would increase costs by \$25,000 and make it less complicated for pupils to work during school hours. In addition, since pupils are unable to use this editing program, our curriculum is not being followed, and their situation demands immediate care.

An annual perishable item used by FAPA is dancing shoes, which cost around \$10,000 annually. In order to accommodate other expenses, the FAPA program will no longer provide dancing shoes to students. For the next three years, pupils must undertake their shoes via fundraisers. Each student will raise \$60 for shoes via bake sales, car washes, and other fundraisers. This will continue for three years to accommodate even more urgent demands for

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nonperishable equipment, such as cameras, which will benefit the whole school. The school's mission and objectives for the forthcoming academic year are congruent. We aim to prepare students for college and careers immediately after graduation from high school. Every FAPA class is fundamentally a career preparation course. By enabling students to enroll in these courses, we enable them to acquire a skill that will increase their employability at the next level. Photography, dance, jazz performance, and fashion design are all potential professional routes for our student group.

The FAPA department will also seek sponsors to help fund the necessary equipment for running a successful program. Many larger IT firms are eager to fund a public program, and FAPA will need to reach out to them and advocate for their program. In addition, the principal and instructors will need to hunt for grant funding. As a principal, I will provide biweekly time to collaborate and start the arduous and time-consuming hunt for grant funding.