



Requests for PTO Funding 2020-21

Any teacher, parent, or student who has a request for funds from the PTO must fill out this form. Please answer these questions as thoroughly as possible, providing supporting detail and information. When completed, please return to the administration at either school by **Friday, November 13, 2020**. Previous proposed and accepted gifts can be at found at the PTO webpage, district29pto.org/pto-teacher-gifts/.

1. Define your request:

For this PTO gift request, I am hoping to fund a small collection of digital books for our Sunset Ridge students. With our new normal, providing access to books online is more important than ever. Giving students easy access to age-appropriate ebooks and audiobooks will increase library circulation and ease of access during hybrid and remote learning.

2. Amount requested:

\$1500

3. Can this project be funded in stages? If yes, what timetable is involved? If no, please explain your due date for funds.

Absolutely! I typically place one library order a month, so I can split up the collection development between a few months. If possible, it would be great to start funding this collection in January.

4. Has this request been reviewed by the school administration? What was their response as to its merit and priority?

Yes! I talked to Dr. Sukenik about this idea and she is fully supportive. Especially with our "new normal" where students can't physically be in the library to immediately access books, this would be a great option for students to have immediate access to library resources.

5. Number of Students that will be impacted or benefit from your request:

All SRS students would have access to this collection.

- 6. Is this a one-time request? Do you envision needing additional PTO funds in the future or long range? If you will require additional PTO funds, please explain why this cannot be added into your annual budget.**

I am hoping that this is a one-time request, but we will have to see how COVID continues to impact our day-to-day operations. I will always prioritize physical books first, but providing access to online materials is becoming increasingly important with COVID.

- 7. What is the intended goal of your request? Would it have any other uses or applications? Is this a start up program, or is it enhancing an existing program? Please use additional paper if needed.**

The goal of this request is to get more books into the hands of more students. This will start up a brand new collection of ebooks and audiobooks for Sunset Ridge students. Not only will this benefit students during hybrid and remote learning, giving access to online resources will be a new, convenient way for our students to read on their devices in and outside of school. Further, this will be the most immediate way for SRS students to check out and read books. In the case of a fully remote school scenario, checking out ebooks and audiobooks is a great way to keep our students reading and accessing LC resources.

- 8. What are the long range benefits of your request?**

In order to develop the skills and mindset of a “lifelong reader,” it is important that our students learn how to advocate for themselves and use our library catalog to find age-appropriate and challenging books. Teaching students how to find, download, and access books to read online is an important and necessary life skill. As more and more books and reading materials move to digital formats, it is imperative that we teach our students how to access and utilize digital platforms for reading.

- 9. If you are requesting a capital asset/investment, please provide a minimum of two options/pricing quotes on the item and attach to this form. Please identify your first choice and why.**

Titlewave/Follett is our designated Sunset Ridge School Library Vendor, so this would have to be our selection for ebooks and audiobooks. All of our ebooks and audiobooks would automatically sync through our existing catalog and library service.

- 10. Have you exhausted all other funding options before coming to the PTO Gifts Program?**

Because the average multi-user access library ebook/audiobook is \$75.00, developing an ebook/audiobook collection is an expensive endeavor that would eat up a substantial portion of my book budget. I currently prioritize my library budget for physical books.