



PTO GIFTS PROGRAM

Requests for PTO Funding 2022-2023

Any teacher, parent, student, or community member 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.

Please email the completed form to the PTO President-Elect (president_elect@district29pto.org) by **Friday, October 28, 2022**.

Name: Maureen O'Looney

Role (Teacher/Parent/Student/Community Member): Teacher

Benefiting School: Middlefork School

1. Define your request:

I am requesting flexible seating options for the Kindergarten and First Grade Classrooms.

2. Amount requested:

\$4618.93

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

We would like to get new flexible seating options for each of the Kindergarten and First Grade Classrooms to integrate with the current classroom furniture as soon as possible.

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

Jen Kiedaisch and Stephanie Evans have approved the request and value our students having the opportunity to seek out seating options that can improve focus, stamina, posture and motor skills.

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

Over 100 students will benefit from this request this year, and the seating options will continue to positively impact student learning for years to come. We currently have a Zuma Rocker in several of the classrooms and the teachers have seen first hand how helpful flexible seating can be. Additionally, students will become more aware of their needs as active, engaged learners.

6. Is this a one-time request or 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.

This is currently a one-time request. Quality alternative seating options are costly, and a single chair can cost a large portion of a teacher's annual budget.

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? Use additional notes section on last page if needed.

This initiative can significantly improve student outcomes for many of our youngest learners for years to come. The number of students that benefit from access to seating that provides movement and sensory stimulation seems to increase every year. The physical activity that these seating options provide will positively impact academic performance and improve physical health, as well as behavior. Please find the resources attached highlighting the numerous benefits of flexible seating in the classroom.

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

The long range benefits of this initiative include increased student autonomy and engagement in addition to improved focus, stamina, posture and motor skills. We can empower learners through choices and metacognitive reflection on themselves as active learners that advocate for their learning needs.

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

7-Zuma Rocker 13" \$166.95 (Schools in) \$179.85 (SchoolOutlet.com)

8-Bounce Chair \$149.00 (Lakeshore Learning)

3-Kneeling Chair \$54.99 (amazon) \$115.95 (Schools in)

8-Zenergy Ball Chair \$143.46 (amazon) \$196.95 (Schools in)

7-Swivel Ball Chair \$135.09 (amazon) \$250.95 (Schools in)

We would prefer to go with the lowest prices that we can find for quality flexible seating.

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

We have exhausted all other funding options for this program.

Additional Notes:

Please see the attached document with links to resources about the benefits of flexible seating as well as links to the flexible seating options that we would like to obtain this year.