

TRIUMPH GULF COAST, INC. PRE-APPLICATION FORM

Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc. (“Triumph Gulf Coast”) has created a pre-application process to provide initial consideration of potential ideas for projects or programs that may seek an award of funding. Applicants are required to participate in the pre-application process. Notwithstanding the response from Triumph Gulf Coast on the pre-application form, an Applicant may still elect to submit an Application.

APPLICANT INFORMATION:

Name of Individual/Entity/Organization: Bay District Schools – Bay High School

Brief Description of Background of Individual/Entity/Organization:

Bay High School is a high school that is a part of Bay District Schools serving over 1100 students annually representing a diverse sector of the county. Programs offered includes Advanced Placement, Advanced International Certificate of Education (AICE), Honors as well as Career and Technical Education. Bay County Schools, governed by an elected five-member board, responsible for setting school policies which are designed with the goal of delivering the best possible education to each child. Bay District Schools is led by Superintendent William V. Husfelt, III. The district is comprised of 47 schools: 5 high schools, 6 middle schools, 2 combined grade level schools (K-8, K-12), 3 special purpose schools, 1 adult technical school, 10 charter schools and 1 virtual school. The entire school system has a total membership of 27,784 students from Pre-K to 12th grade.

Contact Information:

Primary Contact Information: William V. Husfelt, III
Title: Superintendent
Mailing Address: 1311 Balboa Ave. Panama City, FL 32401
Telephone Number: 850-767-4100
Email Address: husfewv@bay.k12.fl.us
Website: http://www.bay.k12.fl.us/

Names of co-applicants, partners or other entities, organizations that will have a role in the proposed project or program: Gulf Coast State College, Florida State University- Panama City, Bay Education Foundation, GKN, Eastern Shipbuilding, Gulf Power, Bay County Chamber of Commerce, Bay Economic Development Alliance

REQUIRED EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

In a maximum of three (3) pages, please describe the proposed project or program, including (i) the amount of funds being sought from Triumph Gulf Coast; (ii) the amount and identity of other sources of funds for the proposed project or program; (iii) the location of the project or program; (iv) summary description of the proposed program, including how the program will be transformational and promote economic recovery, diversification, and enhancement of the disproportionately affected counties, and (v) a summary timeline for the proposed project or program.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

This pre-application process will **not** result in an award of funding by Triumph Gulf Coast. Rather, this process is designed to facilitate submission of ideas for potential projects or programs before the Applicant expends time and/or resources to complete a full Application. All Applicants for funding are required to complete an Application, which will be scored, and then considered for award in the discretion of Triumph Gulf Coast Board.

BAY DISTRICT SCHOOLS STEM WORKFORCE TRAINING CENTER

Executive Summary

Bay District Schools, with its educational partners, is determined to do its part in developing the region's talent, infrastructure and quality of place addressing all STEM related objectives listed in the Northwest Florida Forward report, *A Regional Strategy for Economic Transformation*. The proposed project is the construction and program development of the first Bay District Schools STEM Workforce Training Center. This STEM Center will play a critical role in building a sustainable workforce pipeline in Bay County as well as the Northwest Florida region from one of the most socioeconomically and racially diverse high school in Bay County. The STEM Center would be an essential entry point for these students to start their career pathway toward a viable position in the workforce through career and technical training, advanced STEM coursework, career academies and industry certifications. The training and education that would be offered in the STEM Center would grant a majority population of disadvantaged students a pathway toward breaking out of poverty, through securing a career in high-demand occupations right out of high school or continuing with a post-secondary degree from Gulf Coast State College, Florida State University Panama City or any other Florida colleges or universities if desired.

The STEM Center would be constructed by Bay District Schools and is planned to be a 60,000 square foot, state-of-the-art, LEED certified prototype for future centers across the region. The programs within the STEM Center would serve as a workforce training model for high school students, not only for Bay District Schools but for the entire Northwest Florida. Each student throughout their entire high school career will be exposed to an innovative career and technical training environment and will attend required STEM courses. These courses include not only foundational math and science but all Advanced Placement, Advanced International Certificate Education and Honors courses in STEM. The exposure to STEM related concepts delivered in such a center would inspire longevity toward a career pathway and a passion to pursue further education and training in STEM related fields. Credits and industry certificates earned from the programs can be articulated to area post-secondary institutions as well as Haney Technical Center.

The proposed STEM Center dedicates the entire first floor to workforce training education that showcases a technical training area that supports key area industry clusters that are expanding or have a critical need for talent. The primary training labs planned for construction include Health Sciences, Robotics & Engineering, Technology, Manufacturing and Welding. These Workforce Training Labs will be flexible and easily transformed as industry training needs are identified. The primary focus will be to provide skill-based workforce training that ensures that high school students from this program are career ready and prepared to be employed upon graduation or can enter aligned programs at Gulf Coast State College, Haney Technical Center and other educational institutions throughout the Northwest Panhandle. The first floor will display work by students and capture the essence of hands-on learning in STEM workforce programs. The featured Workforce Training Labs will incorporate existing career academies and programs that lead to area jobs as well as strive to address emerging industry workforce shortages. Area industry professionals will be recruited to be actively involved in the creation of the curriculum, to instruct in the classroom and to serve as guest speakers and mentors.

Planned Labs:

- The **Health Sciences Lab** will feature a training area for becoming a Certified Nursing Assistant and other health related occupations. Graduates from this program who are interested in advancing their career may pursue a Bachelor's degree in Nursing locally at Gulf Coast State College.

- The **Robotics & Engineering, Technology and Manufacturing labs** will provide training which is in direct alignment with the Engineering Technology, Advanced Manufacturing, Cybersecurity and Unmanned Vehicle program also available at Gulf Coast State College.
- The **Welding Lab** will include both hands on and virtual trainers that will prepare them for advancement into the welding program at Haney Technical Center, a workforce pipeline for companies such as Eastern Shipbuilding and other advanced manufacturing companies.

The second and third floor will include classroom spaces, computer labs and laboratories that are adequately equipped for advanced Science instruction and are ADA compliant. The new labs will have adjacent support spaces, built in secure storage casework, lab work tables, teacher demonstration tables, fume hoods, interactive SMART boards, emergency eye wash and gas cut off equipment. Classrooms are planned to be constructed to support lab instruction activities and mathematics. These learning spaces will be equipped with the latest in interactive electronic learning technologies.

The STEM Center would not only be a district resource but a regional one for many other activities in addition to High School STEM workforce training and educational programs such as: industry and economic development tours to demonstrate area workforce potential, career exploration, job placement and internships, STEM Enrichment opportunities developed in partnership with industry, industry certification training/testing for all Bay District high school students, quality In-service teacher training for STEM education teachers from the entire region, and professional development for Administrators and Principals regarding career industry trends and research that validates the importance of STEM education.

i. Amount of funds being sought from Triumph Gulf Coast.

The total cost of the project is estimated to be \$20 million dollars. Bay District Schools requests a total of \$10,000,000 for the project. The estimated budgeted costs for the project include: Construction, Professional contracts, Furnishings and Equipment (Workforce Training Labs, Classroom labs, STEM labs), and Technology.

ii. Identity of other sources of funds for the proposed project or program.

Bay District Schools will allocate a combined total of \$11,450,000 in both cash match and in-kind contributions: \$10 million for the construction using the proceeds from the community approved half-cent sales tax dedicated for providing equitable installation of instructional technology in all core classrooms and the revolving renovation of school facilities; \$1,450,000 for in-kind personnel resources including but not limited to 17 Math, Science and Health teachers, CTE Director (% of time) and STEM Director (% of time), and Bay High School administrators.

Gulf Coast State College will commit equipment aligned to industry needs in Manufacturing and will provide in-kind contribution of a Gulf Coast navigator at the school. **Industry Partners** will be solicited to contribute time for instruction in the workforce training programs and for additional training on industrial equipment aligned to industry need.

iii. Location of the project or program.

The planned location for the STEM Workforce Training Center is on the Bay High School campus in historical Downtown Panama City. If funded the building will be located as a showcase building on Harrison Avenue, a business fairway that is need of beautification and regentrification in the surrounding area.

iv. Summary description of the proposed program, including how the program will be transformational and promote economic recovery, diversification, and enhancement of the disproportionately affected counties, and a summary timeline for the proposed project or program.

A STEM Workforce Training Center would provide transformational change in the future of the lives of Bay County residents for many generations to come. Economic development efforts that have promise of job growth in Bay County poses an urgent crisis to ensure a diverse set of candidates are available to become a part of the workforce talent pipeline that current and future companies can depend on. High school graduates, with the right education and training pathway, can be a vital diverse talent pool available to the growing industries in Bay County as well as throughout the region. Per the Northwest Florida Forward County Snapshots report, out of the 2015 estimated total population (181,635) of Bay County, close to one quarter (21.5%) of the population are school-aged children 17 years and younger. However, these students in Bay County will not be considered as the first candidates for emerging positions that provide a living wage unless they are exposed to more advanced STEM and Career and Technical training at the high school level. This group is a significant portion of the community that must have a viable career pathway.

The STEM Workforce Training Center will diversify the options for all Bay County students to choice into a school that is right for them. At the current rate, there are over 1100 students that attend Bay High school every year. The STEM Workforce Training Center will allow each student from freshman to senior year to take all STEM courses in this building during school hours. Bay High School is one of eight Bay District public high schools in the county that have a significant low-income population with the largest number of students in need (55%), qualifying them for free/reduced lunch.

These same students will be exposed every day to career training and activities that are being showcased as they enter the first level. Students will be inspired by the setting and will further develop skills needed so they have a choice in their career and educational pathway beyond the hospitality and tourism Industry. Upon graduation, students can obtain positions in STEM related fields while pursuing a post-secondary degree from Gulf Coast State College, Florida State University Panama City or any other Florida college or university. Non-degree seeking students may also continue technical training at Haney Technical Center.

Furthermore, the creation of the STEM Workforce Training Center will serve as evidence for future economic development site visits, that Bay District Schools is committed to fostering diverse talent and building an infrastructure that improves the quality of place and livelihood for all Bay County families. Foundations and other potential industry funders will be able to see this STEM Workforce Training Center as a resource that can be leveraged, thus positioning the state, county and region for future workforce development initiatives and grants.

v. Timeline

Bay High is in the process of major redevelopment partly due to the generosity of a local donor that contributed funding to build a new performing and fine arts building. This opportunity was the impetus to create a plan that requires the demolition of an outdated science wing and to propose the construction of a state-of-the art STEM Training Center. Planning for the construction of a traditional building is in progress. If proposed project funding were granted, current planning would be leveraged and the construction project would begin in May 2018 and end by August 2019. Curriculum and programming would be offered in the 2019-2020 academic year.