



Learning & the Brain Conference

Amount Requested:	\$2000	2024-2025 School Year
Applicant:	Jay Peledge, Middle School Principal	Grant received: 9/25/24
Collaborators:	Lindsay Mitchell, school psychologist Courtney Bleicher, school social worker/adjustment counselor	Action anticipated: Conference is in Boston November 2024

Description: This grant application proposes an interdisciplinary conference, "Science of Emotion," aimed at equipping educators with evidence-based strategies to support students facing emotional and mental health challenges.

Background: The need for this project stems from last year's incidents of emotional dysregulation and bullying, which raised concerns among students, staff, and families about creating a safer, calmer environment. While Lincoln experiences fewer challenges compared to other middle schools, the focus on supporting all students and staff is paramount. This conference will connect with the current curriculum by promoting innovative teaching practices and authentic learning experiences that foster critical thinking, collaboration, and cultural understanding, ultimately advancing equity and engagement. It aims to enhance the existing efforts and inspire new strategies to meet educational goals.

Goals and objectives: The goals are to gather diverse resources that can be shared with the broader staff, enhancing the school and district's commitment to student support. The best outcome would be for the attending team to lead professional development sessions and share insights in team meetings, creating a ripple effect throughout the school that improves student behavior, emotional regulation, and trauma-informed classroom management.

Any additional information: Need to vote at October 2024 meeting to ensure registration. Mr. Peledge prefers to waive the \$40.00 offered for developing and implementing as offered by LSF.



Grant Application Form 2024

Thank you for taking the time to complete this form and share your idea with us.

Grant Deadlines

There are two Grant Application Deadlines.

- Grants less than \$2,000 that are to be expended within the current academic year are reviewed within the month they are submitted. Please note that grants over \$2,000 must be for future academic years.
- Grant applications for the following academic year due by **May 9th, 2025**. Applicants will be notified of funding decisions by the end of the current academic school year .

How To Complete This Form

1. Create your own google document version of this application. Go to File<Make a copy.
2. Share the application with your principal for approval.
3. Share the application with Rob Ford for approval if it involves technology, rford@lincnet.org.
4. Send your completed application with all approvals to LSF, grants@lincolnschoolfoundation.org.

Evaluation Criteria

- Match to LSF Mission: *Extent to which project supports LSF mission of promoting innovative teaching and authentic learning experiences to foster critical thinking, collaboration, and cultural understanding to advance equity and engagement.*
- Addresses Need: *Extent to which project addresses demonstrated need (within the grade, school, or district).*
- Capacity of Lasting Impact: *Extent to which the project will impact the school over time and/or is sustainable.*
- Realizable Timeframe and Budget: *Extent to which project clearly articulates an achievable plan in terms of timeframe, documentable outcomes, and a budget, which matches the plan's requirement.*
- Value: *Qualitative estimate for how much change/improvement the grant provides for the requested funding and estimated cost per student.*
- DEI: *Extent to which the project promotes diversity, equity, and inclusion in our school community*

If you have any questions please reach out to grants@lincolnschoolfoundation.org. We are here to help you be successful in this process.

Project Title
Learning and the Brain National Conference

Total funds requested
\$2,000.00

Primary Applicant Jay Peledge		Role (teacher, administrator, parent, etc.) Principal
Email jpeledge@lincnet.org	Daytime Phone 781-259-9408 x1300	Evening Phone 617-640-6710

Collaborators and their roles
Lindsay Mitchell, school psychologist; Courtney Bleicher, school social worker/adjustment counselor

Which schools will benefit

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="radio"/> Lincoln Preschool | <input type="radio"/> Hanscom Preschool |
| <input type="radio"/> Lincoln School, Grades K-4 | <input type="radio"/> Hanscom School, Grades K-3 |
| <input checked="" type="radio"/> Lincoln School, Grades 5-8 | <input type="radio"/> Hanscom School, Grades 4-8 |
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Project Summary (1-3 sentences)

Teaching students to be behaved, regulated, and resilient is a challenge when students come to school with explosive emotions, stress, trauma, emotional dysregulation, and mental health issues. A 2023 ReThinkFirst “Mental Health in the Classroom” Survey found that 43% of parents said their children are highly or extremely stressed, 36% of parents are worried about bullying, 75% of parents observed one or more symptoms of poor mental health in their child, and 61% say their kids need skills that will teach them how to recognize and understand their emotions. A 2024 Pew Research Center Survey found 49% of teachers say behavior for most students is just fair or poor; 68% say they’ve experienced verbal abuse by students, and 40% say students have been violent towards them. This interdisciplinary conference will explore the "Science of Emotion" and its profound impact on behavior, resilience, regulation, and mental health. We will discover evidence-based strategies to calm challenging behaviors and manage classrooms; promote emotional intelligence and regulation; raise resilience; create a trauma-informed school; encourage empathy; confront bullying; improve reading; and ensure emotionally-engaged classrooms.

Goal Statement (short paragraph)

What are your goals for this project? What would be the best outcome for the work you propose?

I expect that we will takeaway a variety of strategies and resources that can be shared with the broader staff in supporting our students and classrooms in a variety of ways. One of our school goals and district goals centers around student supports, and this evidence-based conference aims to provide enriching materials and resources from which we can further promote how we support our students with emotional regulation, relationship-building, and more. The best outcome would be that the three of us could lead PD and share ideas in team meetings that will disseminate throughout the school, leading to improved student behavior, emotional regulation, and classroom management that is trauma-informed.

Context (one paragraph)

How have your education, training, and or/classroom experiences prompted the interest or need for this project? How does your project promote innovative teaching and authentic learning experiences to foster critical thinking, collaboration, and cultural understanding to advance equity and engagement? How does it connect with the present curriculum or curriculum as you envision it?

Last year, we had a number of emotionally dysregulated student situations and bullying complaints that prompted students, staff, and families to wonder what more can be done to support a safer, calmer school environment. While we tend to enjoy far less, in number and severity, situations than many middle schools, the district and school will still focus on ways we can further our support of staff and students to meet all needs. This national conference brings together the best researchers and practitioners in the fields of psychology, social sciences, and more and are able to provide evidence-based strategies and resources from which we can learn and grow as professionals. I anticipate this conference will enhance the steps we have already taken and will provide new ideas for additional ways we can meet our ultimate goals.

Project Description (one paragraph or bullet points)

Describe the structure of this grant. For example, when and where will you be working? With whom will you work? You may include copies of supporting material (e.g. conference brochures, tour itinerary). Links to websites may be used for supporting material and are preferred, if available.

- The conference is hosted at the Westin Copley Place in Boston, MA, Nov. 22-24, 2024
- Lindsay Mitchell, Courtney Bleicher, and Jay Peledge will attend on behalf of the Lincoln School 5-8
- Conference website with additional information:
<https://www.learningandthebrain.com/conference-531/teaching-emotional-brains/>

Impact (one paragraph or bullet points)

Describe as specifically as possible the impact of the work you propose:

On Yourself – How do you expect this project will change you as an educator? How might this project impact your future professional activity?

On Your Colleagues – What impact will your project have on your professional community, either directly or indirectly?

On Your Students – How will your students benefit from this project in the short and/or long term? What student groups and how many will be most impacted?

- As a newer building leader, I feel this will give me increased awareness of how I can support my staff in multiple areas beyond what my primary experience has been in terms of curriculum and classroom management.
- I anticipate this conference will allow us to build out multiple professional development sessions that will not only benefit the Lincoln 5-8 staff and students but could also extend to PK-4 and Hanscom as well.
- In the short-term, I see us being able to share strategies with staff and students to promote relationship-building, emotional resilience, and calm challenging behaviors.
- In the long-term, I see a broader approach to how we support students' (and staff's) emotional needs, relationship-building to reduce bullying, and foster positive relationships across grades and the school at large.
- Those most impacted by trauma and emotional dysregulation would be primary beneficiaries but the entire student body and staff ultimately would benefit.

Evaluation and Sustainability (one paragraph or bullet points)

a) How will you evaluate the success of the project?

- We would see a reduction of student counseling requests and increased use of self-regulation strategies in classrooms.
- We would see a reduction in discipline referrals.
- We would see staff use more strategies on their own in supporting student regulation and emotional resilience.
- We would see students self-reporting increased engagement with the school and increased sense of school connectedness and safety.

b) How do you anticipate this project will enhance learning after its funding is complete? Is this project something that can be incorporated in future years without additional support? If successful, will it spread to other classes/grades and/or schools?

- I anticipate that staff will grow in their understanding and use of strategies for improved classroom management and supporting students' emotional regulation.
- I anticipate students will increase their own understanding of how to emotionally regulate when necessary and how to improve their empathy for one another.
- This is a single conference whose impact could last years without needing to resend staff to future conferences.
- The knowledge learned will most certainly spread across grades and likely schools too.

Budget (line items with total)

Please provide a complete and detailed budget for the funds being requested. Stipend for time developing and implementing grant idea (hourly rate paid by LSF is \$40); Supplies and/or equipment; Speaker or other contracted services; Conference fees, travel, lodging, food; and Substitute fees.

General individual registration fee for the conference: \$699/person x 3 = \$2097.00

I'd prefer to waive the additional \$40.00 offered for developing and implementing the grant as offered by LSF.

No substitutes will be necessary while we attend.

Timetable (bullet points)

Please indicate starting dates, major activities or events, and completion dates for this project. Please identify 1-2 dates/venues when LSF could observe and document through photo or video the implementation of the grant.

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- Conference is Nov. 22-24, 2024
 - The three of us can take photos to document our attendance.
 - Once we identify which PD days we'll use to share what we learned with staff, I will reach back out to LSF regarding attendance and taking additional documentation as needed.

Conditions

A Lincoln School Foundation trustee will contact you to discuss your proposal. The Lincoln School Foundation expects that all grant recipients will:

1. Provide receipts and appropriate documentation for the Budget Report.
2. Work with your LSF grant liaison to document the grant and its outcomes. This could mean inviting the LSF to come in to take photos of the implementation of the grant and interview you for a short write-up, working with us to put together a 2-3 minute video, or some other form of documentation as makes sense for the grant. We ask that you make a plan for documentation with your grant liaison before you begin implementation of the grant

If funded, I/we agree to carry out the goals of this project in accordance with the description and budget contained in this application or in accordance with any adjustment, which is subsequently approved by the Foundation. In the event that I/we do not carry out this project for whatever reason, I/we agree to account for and return all unused funds to the Foundation.

I/we understand and agree that all equipment purchased through an LSF grant is property of the Lincoln School District and will remain with the Lincoln School in the District in the event of an Applicant's/Collaborator's departure from the school unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Applicant and/or Collaborators and the Lincoln School Foundation.

Primary applicant's signature

Signed by Jay Peledge on Sept. 25, 2024

Collaborator's signature(s)

Signed by Courtney Bleicher and Lindsay Mithcell on Sept. 25, 2024

Technology director's signature (only if requesting technology)

Principal's signature

Signed by Jay Peledge on Sept. 25, 2024

When you are ready to collect the signatures at the end of the form, just share the document and ask people to enter "Signed by NAME on DATE" in the signature area. Google Docs revision tracking features will contain a record that verifies who "signed" it, so you will not need to print a copy and get written signatures.

You can submit your application to LSF in Google Drive by sharing it to grants@lincolnschoolfoundation.org. Once you have shared it with LSF, please do not make any further changes to the document.

Questions?

Please feel free to contact the LSF Grants Committee members. We are happy to answer any questions regarding the application form or process. Email us at: grants@lincolnschoolfoundation.org.