

FUNDING APPLICATION

GENERAL INFORMATION

Organization Information

Legal Name: San Antonio Foundation for Excellence in Education, Inc.		Federal Tax ID#: 74-6002167		Are you a 501(3)(c) charity? Yes	
Address: 2411 San Pedro Ave.		City: San Antonio		State: Texas	
				Zip Code: 78212-2833	
Website: https://www.saisdfoundation.com/			Fax: (210) 554-2235		

Head Of Organization

Name: Judy Geelhoed		Title: Executive Director	
E-Mail Address: jgeelhoed@saisdfoundation.com		Phone: (210) 554-2235	

Application Contact

Name: Hannah Sullivan		Title: Grant Writer		E-Mail Address: hsullivan1@saisd.net		Phone: (210) 554-2535	
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Has the organization applied to the Gordon Hartman Family Foundation in the past and been declined?

No

Grant Amount Requested \$:	Total Project Budget \$:	Organization's Annual budget \$:
\$25,000	\$35,000	\$4,893,000

Mission Statement:

Our mission is to mobilize the community to invest in student and teacher success. Our vision is for every SAISD student and teacher to thrive. We support at the classroom, campus, and district-level via grant programs and strategic initiatives to provide opportunities for students regardless of their zip code.

PROJECT INFORMATION

Program / Project Title:

San Antonio ISD Inclusive "All Play" Playgrounds

PROJECT TIMELINE

Start Date	End Date
11/11/2019	09/18/2020

Program / Project Description:

Enshrined as a right to all children, engaging in play builds essential social, emotional, intellectual, and physical skills needed to excel in school and life. Especially important is a playground's ability to foster a truly inclusive, diverse space for children to socialize, play, and understand the needs of different people in their community. However, when a student's ability to play is challenged by a playground's design or functionality, like a child with a disability, that student loses the opportunities to build essential life skills and their peers lose opportunities to build friendships and an understanding of students with different abilities than themselves. The SAISD Foundation has identified four high-need elementary school campuses eager to create "All Play" spaces for its playgrounds to foster inclusion as well as providing every student with the opportunity to develop into diverse, successful learners and citizens.

In San Antonio ISD (SAISD), our approximately 49,000 students are highly likely to be economically disadvantaged (91%), at-risk (74%), have limited English proficiency (20%), identified with a disability requiring special education or a dyslexia/504 plan (12%), and/or experience homelessness (3%). SAISD's special education students (5,663) experience learning disabilities (36.8%), speech impairment (18.1%), orthopedic or other health impairment (14%), intellectual disabilities (10.6%), autism (10%), and other types of cognitive, psychological, or sensory disabilities (10.5%). For our Inclusive "All Play" Playground project, we have identified four participating elementary campuses with above-average percentages of students receiving special education services. Much like the District's special education demographics, many of the campuses' special education population consists largely of students with learning disabilities and speech impairments followed by intellectual disability, autism, or other health impairment(s). Although all SAISD's playgrounds are ADA compliant, they often lack holistic, creative inclusive play opportunities that meet the play needs of all learners, regardless of cognitive or physical ability.

In alignment with evidence-based practices, the Inclusive "All Play" Playgrounds project will provide play items that include students of all abilities such as 1) common, recognizable play objects; 2) loose parts for the playground such as props for imaginative play (i.e. sensory play tables, "loose" toys such as props or tools, musical equipment, etc.); 3) comfortable or cozy quiet spaces; as well as 4) sensory stimulus activities that are visually or tactually engaging.

When considering students with disabilities, we know that supplemental creative and exploratory activities provide opportunities for inclusion. For children with mobility or health impairments, play stations such as chalkboards, paint stations, or sensory tables that may be changed to keep students stimulated and engaged as well as provide access to additional modes of individual and group play. "Loose parts" is a term given to a collection of toys or props that are used to expand student's imaginative play, such as children-sized gardening tools, construction tools, or kitchenware. With the flexibility and variability of open-ended loose parts, students have an infinite possibility to play and interact in inclusive, imaginative games. Further, loose parts have a long shelf-life and range of use because of its adaptability and variety of use. Additionally, students with autism or other sensory impairments explore through the full range of senses including sight, hearing, touch, and sound as well as needing some quiet or "cozy" places. To that end, we are planning to purchase musical play equipment, an outdoor seat, and covered arbor combination which provides a playful get-away for children needing quiet time.

It is important to note that impacts on children are truly investments into creating healthy, happy adults that foster a cohesive, accepting community. Expected results include higher self-esteem among students as well as increased positivity, self-identity, and emotional well-being. The project will improve classroom behaviors (i.e. decrease off-task and challenging behaviors, in out-of-class time due to behavior issues, and overall behavioral incidences); and increase student classroom engagement and participation (i.e. student attendance).

Evaluation Plan:

The San Antonio ISD (SAISD) Inclusive "All Play" Playgrounds project will be measured by the dedicated teachers at four participating SAISD pilot elementary campuses. The program progress and outcome data will include quantitative evaluations (i.e. baseline student academic and behavioral data for comparison with end-of-year data and the kindergarten readiness guidelines/standards) as well as qualitative evaluations (i.e. photographic evidence; student, teacher, and/or parent testimonials; and campus climate reports). Additionally, campus-based special education support staff (i.e. adaptive physical education instructors and therapists) will share impact reports on changes in participation levels at recess. We expect general education classroom teachers to share qualitative data on increases in student interaction with their differently-abled peers.

Simultaneously, with a gift from the Najim Charitable Foundation, the SAISD Foundation will be supporting SAISD's Special Education Department implementation of teacher and parent sensory tool training with simple tools that can be used, in classrooms and at home, to assist kids of all abilities in meeting social-emotional needs, reducing outbursts, and increase self-control. Within a pilot of a similar program, Pre-K parents were overjoyed when they reported being able to enjoy an evening out as a family at a local restaurant and socialize with extended family in public.

Plans to sustain project beyond the term of this request:

All of the purchases from this request are one-time costs and will be maintained by the schools, as needed, over time.

Line item Budget:

Line Item Description	Total Project Funds Allocation	Gordon Hartman Funds Allocation
Ground-Level Outdoor Wall Blackboard (\$250/set x 1 set/campus x 4 campuses)	\$1,000	\$1,000
Outdoor Chalkboard & (Stand Alone) Magnentic Board (\$615/unit x 4 units/campus x 4 campuses)	\$2,460	\$2,460
Outdoor Paint Station (\$780/unit x 1 unit/campus x 4 campuses)	\$3,120	\$3,120

Outdoor Musical Percussion Set (\$600/set x 1 set/campus x 4 campuses)	\$2,400	\$2,400
Outdoor Recycled Plastic Wind Chime Wall (\$1,200/unit x 1 unit/campus x 4 campuses)	\$4,800	\$4,800
Outdoor Sensory Tables (\$215/unit x 1 unit/campus x 4 campuses)	\$860	\$860
Outdoor Ball Tower (\$475/unit x 1 unit/campus x 4 campuses)	\$1,900	\$1,900
Outdoor Outlast Arbor with Canopy (\$1480/unit x 1 unit/campus x 4 campuses)	\$5,920	\$5,920
Loose Parts Supplies, Variety (\$215/set x 1 set/campus x 4 campuses)	\$860	\$860
Loose Parts Transportation Wagon (\$80/unit x 1 unit/campus x 4 campuses)	\$320	\$320
Sensory Tool Training Supplies (funded by Najim Charitable Foundation)	\$10,000	\$0
Art Supplies for Chalk Walls and Paint Stations (i.e. chalk, paint, etc.) (\$200/set x 1 set/campus x 4 campuses)	\$800	\$800
Manipulatives for Sensory Tables (i.e. balls, sand, water toys, etc.) (\$140/set x 1 set/campus x 4 campuses)	\$560	\$560
TOTAL:	\$35,000	\$25,000

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LIST OF BOARD DIRECTORS

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