Title of Session: Grreat Grants
Moderator: BJ Berquist
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Room: Grreat Grants Group

BJB2: Liz, while we wait, can you tell me what you teach and where you are located?

LizMK: certainly

JeffC joined the room.

LizMK: certainly

LizMK: I am in Asbury park, NJ and I teach 8th grade French and Spanish

BJB2: Thanks, Liz. Jeff, want to introduce yourselves to Liz?

LizMK: hi everyone.

JeffC: I'm on Helpdesk here... and looking for help with grant writing.

DavidWe wants to help Jeff write a grant

JeffC: My local district wants me to write a grant to get laptops (and carts) in all the K-4 schools in the district.

BJB2: what resources do you have, Jeff?

LizMK: and I am interested in possibly finding a grant for tech equipment for my classroom

JeffC: 7 elementary schools x 30 laptops per school... so... roughly 200 laptops plus carts, wireless, etc... resources? what are those?

BJB2: what kind of tech equipment, Liz?

JeffC: Liz... for a single classroom I found a good source... the deadline is in two days though... http://www.hp.com/hpinfo/grants/us/programs/tech_teaching/index.html

LizMK: well, to begin with a new pc

JeffC: it's an HP grant... gets projector, computer, etc. into a school... you'd need to partner with a few other teachers though.

LizMK: I have an outdated one that can't handle anything

LizMK: thanks for the link

LizMK: it looks perfect

LizMK: unfortunately, I don't know if I can corral 4 colleagues and get it together by wed!

BJB2: not usually a good idea to rush a grant

BJB2 . o O (unless you feel you can really ace it)

JeffC: well... I rushed my presentation for NECC... did it in a day... what the heck.

DavidWe: that worked out

JeffC: grants are a little different... but the HP one doesn't look too hard to handle.

BJB2 nods solemnly

LizMK: well... I think I could do it if it were only myself. unfortunately, I don't think I can come up with all the integral info for others

JeffC: Just make up some stuff Liz... corral some other teachers later...

JeffC: make sure you mention that your school is title one, and that you'll be focusing on project based learning.

LizMK: I don't know if I am title one

LizMK: I don't think so

JeffC: did I tell you to tell the truth?

LizMK: lol

JeffC:

DavidWe smiles

BJB2 rolls her eyes

LizMK: so, any other ideas for a tech grant?

DavidWe: Are you trying to get a grant as well, Liz?

JeffC: my basic understanding now is that you can't just get grants for equipment anymore.

JeffC: you need to tie it into curriculum, and perhaps more importantly... staff development.

LizMK: hmmm

DavidWe . o O (sustained, ongoing professional development)

LizMK: I could tie it into curr easily

LizMK: and I'm sure I could work in some staff development as well

JeffC: Here's another thought Liz... if your students are proactive and you can get them to create a project... there is something going on at NECC where your students would be eligible for $2000 (plus they get free software just for entering)... it's through Global Schoolhouse... I'll send you the email.

LizMK: thx

BJB2: I also have a few resources for grants in the grants Sources folder, Liz

DavidWe: Have you done anything with connecting your students with native foreign language teachers, Liz?

LizMK: not yet

LizMK: my tech resources are so very limited

DavidWe: I've got a friend who teaches in Cherry Hill (German) - Karl's German and he is taking his students to Germany this summer (he's done this before)

LizMK: it makes any type of electronic exchange/distance learning almost an impossibility

LizMK: I'd love to do something like that

DavidWe smiles

LizMK: my students are a bit on the young side for that (8th grade)

LizMK: I can barely get permission to take them to dc for one night!

DavidWe: We have a very interesting group of ESL/EFL teachers (mostly teaching English) - the WebHeads

DavidWe: They are all over the World

LizMK: so... I'm sure you can imagine that integrating any tech is a stretch

DavidWe nods

LizMK: I'm in a one computer classroom that can't handle ANYTHING

DavidWe: Sorry about that

LizMK: I have very low priority for lab time

LizMK: however, we are about to have a distance learning lab up and running

DavidWe: We were in some pretty nice computer labs last week in Whippany, East Hanover - near Morristown

LizMK: I wonder if I'll get to take advantage

LizMK: we have nice computer labs

LizMK: 2 of them

DavidWe: Do your students typically have Internet access at home?

LizMK: unfortunately, other disciplines get use of them

LizMK: yes

LizMK: but I can't require it

DavidWe: but if the opportunity is there, perhaps the students will get excited about it

LizMK: right

LizMK: they would get excited

LizMK: I'm just saying that not all have it, so I can't really assign it out of school

DavidWe: Sure

DavidWe: But make it something optional and at least you can work on getting some things established

LizMK: right

LizMK: and I have

LizMK: webquests and such

DavidWe: Sounds good

DavidWe: Which languages do you teach?

LizMK: French and Spanish

DavidWe smiles

DavidWe wonders if BJ is paying attention

BJB2 nods

DavidWe: Phil Benz - an American living in the south of France - has done some cool things...

DavidWe finds his web page

DavidWe: http://www.ardecol.ac-grenoble.fr/english/tice/

BJB2: he's changed the site since I've last viewed it

DavidWe smiles

DavidWe: he's not been logged in since last June

BJB2 . o O (haven't talked to him in a grip)

LizMK: thx

LizMK: it looks interesting

LizMK: I've put it in the favorites

DavidWe: I think he would be happy to give you some good ideas if you cared to contact him

LizMK: I'll check into it more thoroughly at another time

LizMK: I just may

DavidWe . o O (He's PhilB here)

BJB2: Deb Blaz is another person to contact, Liz

DavidWe . o O (be right back)

LizMK: thx for that link, btw.

LizMK: it's excellent

BJB2: Liz, another hot tool for language learners is blogging or podcasting

BJB2: there are some archived discussions on the topic at www.tappedin.org/transcripts

LizMK: I'll check them out

BJB2: blogstreams salon and SIGTC discussions esp. Liz

BJB2: anything we can help you with, Cynthia?

LizMK: what is sigtc?

BJB2: special interest group tech coordinators=SIGTC

BJB2: they have a monthly discussion on topics using tech in the classroom

BJB2: the last one on podcasting was truly remarkable

LizMK: oh

LizMK: thanks

LizMK: all of these ideas are great

LizMK: I just feel very isolated as a result of my tech resources

LizMK: not so much isolated

LizMK: limited would describe it better

BJB2: we're giving you these suggestions to broaden your options about extending your curriculum

BJB2: and help you help your students become more actively engaged in their learning

LizMK: I totally understand and appreciate that

LizMK: but, if I don't have the means...

BJB2: that makes you HUNGRY...go write those grants!

LizMK: exactly

LizMK: thanks for your input

BJB2 pulls on her cheerleader outfit

LizMK: have a good night

BJB2 uses the double pom poms

BJB2: you too, Liz. Keep us posted on how you're doing

LizMK: will do

BJB2: thanks, guys, for leading the discussion. My brain is a bit fuzzy

BJB2 hugs goodnight