2014-15 Library Services & Technology Act (LSTA) Grant Program: Collection Development

Grant Overview: The LSTA grant accepts applications from public, school, and academic libraries for grants up to $50,000 for projects that create programs and services to support communities and meet one or more of the following LSTA Grants to States Priorities:

- expand services for learning and access to information and educational resources;
- establish or enhance electronic and other linkages and improved coordination among and between libraries;
- provide training and professional development, including continuing education, to enhance the skills of the current library workforce;
- enhance recruitment of professionals to the field of library/information services;
- develop public/private partnerships with other agencies;
- target library services to individuals of diverse geographic, cultural, and socioeconomic backgrounds, and to individuals with limited functional literacy or information skills;
- target library and information services to persons having difficulty using a library and to underserved urban and rural communities;
- develop library services that provide all users access to information through local, state, regional, national, and international collaborations and networks

The Eisenhower Middle High School Library Media Specialist has proposed creating a makerspace afterschool program in the library. A 'makerspace' is a creative, do-it-yourself space where students may come together to create, invent, and learn. Such spaces in libraries are often equipped with 3D printers, software, tablets/computers, and a variety of hardware supplies and tools. Students would work on projects with an emphasis on research and information skills, as well as skills related to standards in the PA Career and Technical Education area.

Amount of Award: Up to $50,000.

Due Date/Notification of Award: Applications are due on December 17, 2014. Awards should be announced by January 15, 2015.

Alternatives if not Awarded: The project will not take place without LSTA funding.

WCSD Resources Required: none.

Administrative Recommendation: That the Board of School Directors instructs the administration to work with the Eisenhower Middle/High School Library Media Specialist to develop an application to the LSTA grant competition for funding of an afterschool makerspace program.