



H.O.P.E. Grant – Application Detail

The goal of H.O.P.E.'s grant program is to enable supplementary financial support to Heyworth Elementary staff for the end benefit of student education/enrichment. The below questions should be completed to provide a more detailed description of the grant request. The application form should not exceed one typed page. Completed applications should be submitted along with the Grant Request Application Form to the H.O.P.E. mailbox at least 2 weeks prior to the H.O.P.E. review meeting. Completed applications will be made available to H.O.P.E. Membership prior to the review meeting and copies will be on hand at the meeting for additional review prior to voting.

1. **Describe the proposed need/project/program and the objectives it would accomplish.** *The proposed project would be to purchase balance ball chairs to be housed in our 3 special education classrooms at HES. Many of the chairs will be used daily by students with high sensory needs in the special education classrooms. Other chairs can be checked out to be used in general education classrooms for students with sensory needs in the gen. ed. classroom.*

2. **What is the estimated cost of the project/program? Please summarize and attach itemized list.** *Each chair is \$79.98 on Amazon.com and can be ordered on a Prime account for free shipping. See link. [Amazon Prime Order Link](#)*

20 Chairs x \$79.98 ea. = \$1599.60

3. **Who and how many would benefit from this project/program? What would be the impact on students/staff?** *Any student with sensory needs can benefit from a balance ball chair. Students using the chairs regularly can reduce the need to leave the classroom for sensory breaks. The impact on students and staff would be reduced behaviors during class and less distractions from students leaving for sensory breaks.*

Occupational Therapy Recommendation by Lesley Anderson

Benefits of Balance Ball Chairs in the Classroom

- increased attention
- strengthen core muscles
- improved posture
- improved behavior
- improved legible word productivity

All children move because their sensory systems are still developing. All movement activities are very important for a child's central nervous system, their brain, and their body. Movement allows the neurological pathway from your body's balance/movement system to connect to your alert system in your brain. Being in motion increases attention.

Who Will Benefit?

- Special Needs Children
 - ADHD Children require more movement than their peers
 - Sensory Processing Disorder Children
 - Low-tone children
 - Children who are "fidgety" and need to move to increase their attention span.
- All Children
 - All children need to move!
 - Increases core muscles, posture, handwriting and productivity.
 - Children can learn in an environment with less interruptions from students who require sensory breaks.
- Teachers
 - Lessons can continue uninterrupted when students stay focused.
 - Lessons can continue uninterrupted when students with sensory requirements no longer have to leave the classroom to accommodate the sensory need.
 - Adults have sensory needs too!

Why is Using a Balance Ball for Sensory a Great Choice?

Sitting on a ball requires constant slight movements and engages core muscles in order to remain balanced. With this movement, better focus is attained.

Lesley Anderson
Tri-County Occupational Therapist





****To Be Completed by H.O.P.E. Exec Board****

Date of H.O.P.E. Review Meeting:

Date Invoice Received:

Approved/Denied (Score):

Date Payment Provided:

Comments: