



2024-2025 Stronger Connections Grant

Competitive Grant Application: Due 11:59 p.m. CT, July 18, 2023

NOGA ID

Application stamp-in date and time

TEA will only accept grant application documents by **email**, including competitive grant applications and amendments. Submit grant applications and amendments as follows:

Competitive grant applications and amendments to competitivegrants@tea.texas.gov.

The application **MUST** bear the signature of a person authorized to bind the applicant to a contractual agreement

Authorizing legislation: PL 117-159 Bipartisan Safer Communities Act Title II School Improvement Programs, BSCA

Grant period: From 11/15/2023 to 09/30/2025

Pre-award costs: ARE NOT permitted for this grant

Required attachments: N/A

Amendment Number

Amendment number (For amendments only; enter N/A when completing this form to apply for grant funds): N/A

1. Applicant Information

Name of organization Vanguard Academy

Campus name N/A

CDN 108808

Vendor ID 742971562

ESC 01

UEI NLECXSY1N

Address 2510 South Veterans Boulevard

City Edinburg

ZIP 78539

Phone 956-781-1701

Primary Contact Angela Gonzalez

Email agonzalez@vanguardac.net

Phone 956-781-1701

Secondary Contact Victor Rodriguez

Email vrodriguez@vanguardac.net

Phone 956-781-1701

2. Certification and Incorporation

I understand that this application constitutes an offer and, if accepted by TEA or renegotiated to acceptance, will form a binding agreement. I hereby certify that the information contained in this application is, to the best of my knowledge, correct and that the organization named above has authorized me as its representative to obligate this organization in a legally binding contractual agreement. I certify that any ensuing program and activity will be conducted in accordance and compliance with all applicable federal and state laws and regulations.

I further certify my acceptance of the requirements conveyed in the following portions of the grant application, as applicable, and that these documents are incorporated by reference as part of the grant application and Notice of Grant Award (NOGA):

- Grant application, guidelines, and instructions Debarment and Suspension Certification
 General Provisions and Assurances Lobbying Certification
 Application-Specific Provisions and Assurances ESSA Provisions and Assurances requirements

Authorized Official Name Dr. Narciso Garcia Title Superintenden Email n_garcia@vanguardac.net

Phone 956-781-1701

Signature DocuSigned by:
Dr. Narciso Garcia

Date 6/20/2023

Grant Writer Name Angela Gonzalez

Signature DocuSigned by:
Angela Gonzalez

Date 6/21/2023

Grant writer is an employee of the applicant organization. Grant writer is not an employee of the applicant organization.

For TEA Use Only:

Adjustments on this page have been confirmed with _____ by _____ of TEA by phone / fax / email on _____.

RFA/SAS # 701-23-120/634-24

2024-2025 Stronger Connections Grant

Page 1 of 11

CDN 108808

Vendor ID 742971562

Amendment # N/A

3. Shared Services Arrangements

Shared services arrangements (SSAs) **are not** permitted for this grant.

4. Identify/Address Needs

List up to three quantifiable needs, as identified in your needs assessment, that these program funds will address. Describe your plan for addressing each need.

Quantifiable Need	Plan for Addressing Need
Vanguard Academy-Mozart (VA-Mozart) is located in Alamo, which has a poverty rate of 23.5% (Texas 9.3%). This has resulted in 83.8% of the students being classified as Economically Disadvantaged (ED). (4 pts.) (PEIMS Data 2022-2023)	Administration, counselors, social workers, and the threat assessment team will take part in various Professional Development (PD) trainings, conferences, and workshops (i.e., Texas School Safety Conference and School Psychologist Summer Institute) that will assist the charter in addressing the social/emotional learning and mental/behavioral health of their ED students.
According to UT Health RGV Board of Certified Psychiatrists, as of 2022, Hidalgo County, where VA-Mozart is located, averages approximately fifty-six teen suicides per year.	Strategies that will be utilized to address the mental/emotional health of students include 1) A peer-mentor program; 2) Social workers & case managers will assist with conflict resolution and depression; and 3) Group counseling will be offered by the school psychologist to encourage self-help & peer-to-peer support.
49% of participating students are from single-parent households. Data reveals kids from these households tend to have behavior issues. 21-22 PEIMS data shows VA-Mozart had reported incidents to include aggravated assault, terroristic threat, and drugs.	Strategies will be utilized to reduce violence, drugs, and vaping abuse: 1) A school psychologist will identify students in need and provide them counseling sessions; 2) Sensory rooms will be expanded to be used by non-special education students for "time out" purposes; 3) Sensors will be installed to deter vaping; and 4) Raptor Technologies will be bought to promote positive behavioral and mental health.

5. SMART Goal

Describe the summative SMART goal you have identified for this program (a goal that is Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Timely), either related to student outcome or consistent with the purpose of the grant.

The program's goal is to improve academic achievement by deterring bullying, terroristic threats, assault, drug abuse, violence, depression, suicide, and acts of hate. The SMART Goal is: SPECIFIC as it will reduce disciplinary referrals by 30% and improve academic outcomes in all grades and all subjects by 20%; MEASURABLE through climate surveys, PEIMS disciplinary outcomes, academic scores, and attendance; ACHIEVABLE when considered it will utilize partners to provide technical assistance/workshops, staff to oversee the project, and job-embedded PD that will assist with grant implementation; RELEVANT when considering research shows that safe, inclusive, and supportive learning environments are associated with improved student academic achievement and emotional well-being; and TIMELY, since improvements in various student supports will be put in place by 9/30/2025.

6. Measurable Progress

Identify the benchmarks that you will use at the end of the first three grant quarters to measure progress toward meeting the process and implementation goals defined for the grant.

First-Quarter Benchmark

- Formally establish a Student Support Program (SSP) at Vanguard Academy's Mozart campus.
- Meet with Region 1 ESC to discuss the contracted services and technical assistance that will be provided.
- Post and hire grant-funded positions (psychologist, two social workers, and a data analyst).
- Contract with Communities in Schools (CIS) for campus Case Managers.
- Identify an approved partner to provide professional and contracted services as part of the Texas Center for Student Supports (TCSS).
- Align the campus student support team structure with the VA's threat assessment team.

For TEA Use Only:

Adjustments on this page have been confirmed with _____ by _____ of TEA by phone / fax / email on _____.

CDN 108808

Vendor ID 742971562

Amendment # N/A

6. Measurable Progress (Cont.)

Second-Quarter Benchmark

- Work with the TCSS to develop a family engagement playbook that will improve and support families and students.
- Develop a peer-mentor program that is based on a successful existing program offered at a different campus.
- Identify parents, students, staff, nonprofits, businesses, and community members who can serve on the School Health Advisory Committee (SHAC)/VA Education Improvement Committee (DEIC) Advisory Committee. These members will be charged with providing input on the grant’s SSP and identifying funding opportunities to sustain the student support initiatives beyond the grant.
- Engage in SSP planning activities from the beginning of the grant program through the beginning of the 2024-2025 school year.
- Incorporate a case management system into the SSP team structure.

Third-Quarter Benchmark

- At the beginning of the 2024-2025 school year, implement the SSP, which will be aligned to the content and training provided by the Texas Center for Student Supports.
- Provide training to staff and parents on early detection of student risk factors that may lead to threatening and unsafe behavior (i.e., drug abuse, depression, cutting, suicide, terrorist threats, etc.).
- Implement the data collection and reporting system developed by the Texas Center for Student Supports to gather and analyze data that will be used to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of the implementation of the SSP.
- Provide timely response to requests from TEA for information and data regarding program development, implementation, and performance and evaluation measures.
- Meet with stakeholders to identify other avenues, partners, and funding sources that can be used for sustainability.

7. Project Evaluation and Modification

Describe how you will use project evaluation data to determine when and how to modify your program. If your benchmarks or summative SMART goals do not show progress, describe how you will use evaluation data to modify your program for sustainability.

HOW EVALUATION DATA WILL BE USED TO MODIFY PROGRAM: Vanguard Academy will evaluate grant and campus-level data utilizing resources such as surveys, external data report (s), state assessments, grades, sign-in sheets, and PEIMS-related data. Key stakeholders of the group, such as the Principals, Counselors, students, parents, and community members will meet to discuss the program’s successes and issues. The SSP will also hold separate meetings to review campus and student data, school climate survey outcomes, number of behavior referrals, disciplinary outcomes, student referrals, and threat assessments conducted. Based on the review of this data in relation to the quarterly benchmarks and SMART goals, if the achievement is below standard, the Student Support Program will be adjusted to get back on track and meet the needs of the students.

IF BENCHMARKS OR SUMMATIVE GOALS DO NOT SHOW PROGRESS/MODIFY FOR SUSTAINABILITY: If the quarterly benchmarks and SMART goal are not being met or are not feasible, the stakeholders will request additional guidance from the Region 1 ESC and/or the Texas Center for Student Support to address identified issues. If modifications are needed, Vanguard Academy will send out letters and emails to the stakeholders to notify them of VA’s intention to adjust the SSP’s initiatives. If needed, an amendment will be submitted to TEA to receive authorization to modify the SSP. By requesting feedback and suggestions from all stakeholders, Vanguard Academy Mozart will be able to receive continued buy-in and prolong grant sustainability.

For TEA Use Only:

Adjustments on this page have been confirmed with _____ by _____ of TEA by phone / fax / email on _____.

CDN 108808

Vendor ID 742971562

Amendment # N/A

8. Statutory/Program Assurances

The following assurances apply to this grant program. In order to meet the requirements of the grant, the grantee must comply with these assurances.

Check each of the following boxes to indicate your compliance.

1. The applicant provides assurance that program funds will supplement (increase the level of service), and not supplant (replace) state mandates, State Board of Education rules, and activities previously conducted with state or local funds. The applicant provides assurance that state or local funds may not be decreased or diverted for other purposes merely because of the availability of these funds. The applicant provides assurance that program services and activities to be funded from this grant will be supplementary to existing services and activities and will not be used for any services or activities required by state law, State Board of Education rules, or local policy.
2. The applicant provides assurance that the application does not contain any information that would be protected by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) from general release to the public.
3. The applicant provides assurance to adhere to all Statutory Requirements, TEA Program Requirements, and Performance Measures, as noted in the 2024–2025 Stronger Connections Grant Program Guidelines, and shall provide the Texas Education Agency, upon request, any performance data necessary to assess the success of the grant program.
4. The applicant will formally establish a Student Support Program at three district campuses (one elementary, one intermediate/middle school, one high school) to address school climate and establish a student support team structure aligned to the training and support provided by the Texas Center for Student Supports and the regional ESC. If the applicant has few than three campuses or does not have three of the listed types of campuses, the applicant will establish the Student Support Program and the student support team structure at all campuses, up to three, served in the district.
5. The applicant will allocate 6% of awarded funds for contracted services for technical assistance provided by the regional ESC. Complete the transaction with the regional ESC in a timely manner. Time is of the essence in completing the transaction to ensure that the program is implemented efficiently and effectively to successfully achieve the goals of the program.
6. The applicant will allocate 10% of awarded funds for professional and contracted services with a partner approved by the Texas Center for Student Support and TEA. Complete the transaction with the regional ESC in a timely manner. Time is of the essence in completing the transaction to ensure that the program is implemented efficiently and effectively to successfully achieve the goals of the program.
7. The applicant will use the family engagement playbook developed by the Texas Center for Student Supports to partner and build support with parents and families prior to a student support team assessment, and during the student support implementation process to facilitate a student support partnership with families.
8. The applicant will establish a parent, student, and staff advisory committee to provide input on the establishment of the Student Support Program.
9. The applicant will engage in Student Support Program planning activities from the beginning of the grant program through implementation at the beginning of the 2024-2025 school year.
10. The applicant will establish and implement at the beginning of the 2024-2025 school year, the Student Support Program aligned to the content and training provided by the Texas Center for Student Supports.
11. The applicant will incorporate a case management system into the student support team structure aligned to the training and support provided by the Texas Center for Student Supports.
12. The applicant will align the student support team structure with behavioral threat assessment team operation and outcomes to ensure that students are well supported and that the effectiveness of interventions are monitored.
13. The applicant will implement the data collection and reporting system developed by the Texas Center for Student Supports to gather and analyze data to monitor efficacy of the implementation of the Student Support Program, including student support team structure, quality of support leading to positive outcomes, and data related to increases in desired outcomes (e.g. increase in student support team referrals for nonacademic needs, increase in effective supports received by students, reduction in disciplinary incidents, reduction in bullying and harassment, increase in referrals for mental health services, reduction in removals from class, etc.).
14. The applicant will provide timely response to requests from TEA for information and data regarding program development, implementation, and performance and evaluation measures.

For TEA Use Only:

Adjustments on this page have been confirmed with _____ by _____ of TEA by phone / fax / email on _____.

RFA/SAS # 701-23-120/634-24

2024-2025 Stronger Connections Grant

Page 4 of 11

9. Statutory/ TEA Program Requirements

1. Describe how the LEA will identify the campuses that will participate in the establishment of the Student Support Program described in the program description? Include the criteria or considerations that will influence the determination by the LEA.

Vanguard Academy will use a variety of measures to identify the campuses that will participate in the establishment of the Student Support Program (SSP). Vanguard Academy will consider the following factors when reviewing their campuses:

1. Student Needs: Consider the social, emotional, behavioral, and drug awareness needs of students on campuses.
2. Analysis of Data: Analyze student discipline referrals, suspensions, attendance rates, dropout rates, demographic information, and academic achievement. Vanguard Academy will identify campuses that exhibit specific challenges and/or disparities and prioritize them for this grant opportunity.
3. Campus Improvement Plans (CIPs): Review every school's CIPs that outline the goals and strategies for improving students' well-being, behavioral health, and student performance.
4. Stakeholder Input: Seek input from school administrators, teachers, staff, parents, and community members to understand their perspectives on which campuses would benefit the most from the SSP. This collaborative approach ensures that diverse viewpoints from stakeholders are considered.
5. Equity Considerations: To ensure equity, Vanguard Academy aims to distribute resources and support more fairly among its students. Therefore, Vanguard Academy will prioritize schools serving disadvantaged/marginalized populations to address SEL, mental health, and educational disparities.
6. Capacity and Resources: Assess the capacity and resources available within each campus to implement the program components effectively. Vanguard Academy considered factors such as staff expertise, infrastructure, existing support services, and potential collaborations with external organizations.

In summary, Vanguard Academy will carefully consider student needs, data analysis, campus improvement plans, stakeholder input, equity considerations, and capacity/resources to identify the campuses that will participate in the establishment of the Student Support Program.

2. Describe how the LEA will ensure that campus leaders and staff are committed to the success of the Student Support Program.

Vanguard Academy will ensure the Mozart campus leaders and staff's commitment to the success of the Student Support Program (SSP) through the following effective measures:

1. Communicate the SSP's goals, objectives, and significance to campus leaders and staff. Region 1 ESC training sessions and central administration and campus meetings will be provided to ensure a thorough understanding of the grant program's purpose, strategies, and expected outcomes.
2. Foster a collaborative environment that actively engages campus leaders and staff to work together in the development and implementation of the SSP. Open dialogue, feedback mechanisms, and involvement in decision-making processes will be encouraged to promote staff buy-in/commitment.
3. Align the goals, strategies, and personnel of the SSP with each campus' existing CIP. This integration ensures that campus leaders and staff perceive the program as an integral part of their overall efforts to enhance student wellness, behavior, academic success, and staff commitment.
4. Consultant will be contracted to host workshops on identifying risk-factors, de-escalation, and more. This will help staff understand the importance of the grant and promote program commitment.
5. Allocate resources, including funding, hired staff, and support services, to facilitate the implementation of the SSP. This demonstrates the commitment to providing guidance and support for leaders, teachers, and staff.
6. VA will dedicate personnel to the management, reporting, and compliance of the grant. This ensures continuous evaluation, improvement, and support and will provide regular feedback and assistance to campus leaders, teachers, and staff. This will help identify challenges and areas needing modification and foster a culture of continuous improvement and commitment, as well as an opportunity to celebrate and showcase success. Using these effective measures and strategies, VA will ensure campus leaders and staff are fully invested in the SSP goals. By fostering a collaborative and supportive environment, the program will be better equipped to address bullying, violence, vaping abuse, and acts of hate while supporting students' holistic needs.

For TEA Use Only:

Adjustments on this page have been confirmed with _____ by _____ of TEA by phone / fax / email on _____.

9. Statutory/Program Requirements (Cont.)

3. Describe how the LEA will engage parents and families to solicit support for the program.

VA-Mozart will engage parents and families to solicit support for the Student Support Program (SSP) through:

1. Utilizing the family engagement playbook to build support with parents/families and students.
2. Organizing parent education meetings/workshops to inform them about the program's objectives, strategies, and intended outcomes. VA-Mozart administration and counselors will emphasize its importance in addressing bullying, violence, drug awareness, and promoting student well-being.
3. Communicating with parents and families about the program through letters, emails, and parent meetings. This communication will share clear and concise information in English and Spanish about its purpose, benefits, and alignment with the VA-Mozart mission.
4. Establishing dedicated parent advisory committees for the (SSP), providing a platform for parents and families to contribute suggestions and concerns. Their input and support are valued and will be considered in program planning and implementation.
5. Collaborating with parent organizations to engage parents and families in supporting the SSP. This includes joint meetings between several parent groups, workshops to promote student wellness and health, and events to foster dialogue and active involvement. (i.e., community gatherings, open house, parent orientation as students transition from elementary school to middle school, etc.).
6. Contracting consultants to provide parents with workshops on how to identify risk factors in their child, such as depression, cutting, distancing, uncontrollable anger, lack of hygiene, poor appetite, and violent mood swings.
7. Administering surveys to receive feedback and assess parent satisfaction, gather suggestions for improvement, and measure the program's impact on their children and the community.

By engaging parents and families through effective communication, involvement, and feedback, VA-Mozart will ensure active participation and support for the SSP. This collaborative approach strengthens the program's impact and fosters shared responsibility for creating safe and inclusive learning environments.

4. Describe how the LEA will ensure that there is adequate staff to support the establishment and implementation of the Student Support Program.

Vanguard Academy will ensure adequate staff to support the establishment and implementation of the SSP through several measures.

First, Vanguard Academy will conduct a comprehensive assessment of staffing needs, considering factors such as discipline, attendance, and drug awareness of participating campuses, student population, and services required.

Next, Vanguard Academy will allocate additional resources to hire new staff members dedicated to the SSP, including a school psychologist, two (2) social workers, CIS Case Managers, and data analyst. These individuals will be fingerprinted prior to being hired and will have expertise in addressing students' academic, social, emotional, and behavioral needs.

Then, Vanguard Academy will provide professional development opportunities to existing staff members, as well as those that were newly hired, to enhance their skills in supporting students within the program. Training sessions, workshops, and coaching will be offered to equip the administration and staff with the necessary tools and strategies to improve student safety and mental health.

Finally, Vanguard Academy will establish an on-going monitoring and evaluation system to assess program effectiveness and identify staffing gaps or needs. This will allow for necessary adjustments and resource allocation to support VA staff.

Through careful assessment, resource allocation, professional development, partnerships, and monitoring, Vanguard Academy will ensure adequate staff for the establishment and implementation of the SSP, maximizing its impact on student success and well-being.

For TEA Use Only:

Adjustments on this page have been confirmed with _____ by _____ of TEA by phone / fax / email on _____.

9. Statutory/Program Requirements (Cont.)

5. Describe how each of the campuses will be supported by the grant program, if awarded, currently conduct behavioral threat assessments and how the campus will incorporate current systems into the student support team structure.

CAMPUSES CURRENTLY CONDUCT BEHAVIORAL THREAT ASSESSMENTS: To best assess behavior threat assessments, Vanguard Academy has established a Crisis Assessment Team (CAT). This CAT Team is a multidisciplinary team am composed of individuals with a broad range of expertise (i.e., Director of School Safety, principals, assistant principal, counselors, social worker, nurses, SRO, teachers, etc.). As part of its operation, the CAT Team is tasked with conducting threat assessments, determining the level of risk, and providing interventions to support the individual for whom the threat assessment was conducted and the victim of the threat.

To best do this, a fact-based, Threat Assessment approach is performed. This includes steps such as: Identifying the person or situation whose behavior has raised concern about potential violence; Inquiring, asking questions, and gathering relevant information about the person and situation; Assessing the person and situation based on the information that is available, to determine whether the person or situation poses a threat of violence or harm to others and/or self; and Managing the threat by implementing an intervention, supervision, and/or monitoring plan to prevent harm and to reduce and mitigate the impact of the situation. Lastly, once every 6-weeks tabletop exercises are conducted in which the team enacts threat scenarios and how to respond appropriately.

INCORPORATE CURRENT SYSTEMS INTO THE STUDENT SUPPORT TEAM STRUCTURE: If awarded, the targeted campuses will integrate the current CAT system into the Student Support Team Framework. This integration offers a coordinated and holistic approach to student support. By effectively doing so, the charter can ensure it will provide students with safe, inclusive, and supportive learning environments to build a sense of belonging and safety.

6. Describe how the LEA currently identifies student support needs and how it identifies and establishes partnerships with external mental health and behavioral health providers to meet student needs.

To identify student support needs, Vanguard Academy conducts regular assessments and screenings, considering academic, behavioral, and social-emotional aspects. Input from teachers, administrators, and parents is also gathered to gain a holistic understanding of students' difficulties and challenges.

Vanguard Academy currently does not have access to an in-school psychologist and case workers to provide mental and behavioral health to their students.

However, to ensure student mental health needs are still met, Vanguard Academy established partnerships with external mental health and behavioral health providers to include: Doctor's Hospital Renaissance (DHR), Region 1 ESC, and Tropical Texas Behavioral Health. Contracts and agreements have been established to formalize the partnerships and ensure the partners' values and objectives align with the charter.

Vanguard Academy maintains on-going communication and collaboration with these partners to ensure a coordinated approach to student support. These partners conduct regular professional development sessions to enhance Vanguard Academy staff's knowledge and skills in addressing student support needs.

For TEA Use Only:

Adjustments on this page have been confirmed with _____ by _____ of TEA by phone / fax / email on _____.

CDN 108808

Vendor ID 742971562

Amendment # N/A

9. Statutory/Program Requirements (Cont.)

7. Describe how the LEA currently partners with the regional ESC to support improvement in student mental health, behavioral and emotional health, physical health and wellbeing, and improving academic outcomes for students.

Vanguard Academy partners with the Region 1 ESC for academic training, the training for student mental health, behavioral and emotional health, and physical health. Some of the trainings we have received included: Youth Mental Health, AS+K? (Suicide Prevention), GSSI (Grief Sensitive Schools Initiative), Positive Behavior Interventions Supports, Frog Street SEL (Pk3-K), Positive Action Curriculum for Advocacy (6th –12th), and Positive Action – Conflict Resolution, Drug Prevention, Bully Prevention. With grant support, Vanguard Academy will be able to attend workshops and institutes at the Texas Center of Student Support (TCSS).

To promote physical health and well-being, VA-Mozart plans to utilize Region 1 ESC (6%-grant funds) to establish a wellness program that includes training geared at encouraging healthy habits and integrating health education into the curriculum. This partnership with Region 1 ESC will assist Vanguard Academy with workshops and resources that promote health, nutrition, and physical fitness, benefiting students, staff, and families.

Moreover, to improve academic outcomes, Vanguard Academy will continue to collaborate with Region 1 ESC to enhance instructional practices that improve the well-being and achievement of the students. The ESC will assist VA-Mozart by providing professional development opportunities that are research-based, and include strategies, data analysis, and personalized learning. This collaboration will support Vanguard Academy's curriculum development, assessment design, and implementation of interventions to improve student outcomes.

Together, Vanguard Academy and Region 1 ESC will be essential for supporting both the students' well-being and their academic growth. Through this collaboration, professional development, and access to specialized resources, Vanguard Academy will be able to effectively address student needs and foster a supportive learning environment.

8. Describe how the LEA will use this grant program to supplement current work to improve services and supports for the mental health, behavioral and emotional health, and physical health and wellness of students.

Vanguard Academy will utilize the grant funds to enhance and supplement its current efforts in improving services and support for students' mental, behavioral emotional, and physical health and wellness by expanding existing programs and initiatives. This includes: 1) Region 1 ESC will be allocated 6% of the grant funds to provide technical assistance that is key to the successful implementation of a Student Support Program. 2) Texas Center for Student Support will be allocated 10% of grant funds to provide content, training, and implementation monitoring tools for a Student Support Program that includes improving school climate, a student support team structure, and behavioral threat assessment implementation. 3) Vanguard Academy will hire a psychologist and two social workers that will work with existing counselors to improve and enhance the mental, behavioral, emotional, and physical health of all students. 4) Funds will be used to expand and enhance the current partnership with existing Raptor Technologies. Currently, Raptor Technologies is used for its Visitor Management and Early Management Systems. This allows the schools to screen and track everyone that enters the schools, manage drills, instantly notify first responders of an incident, and accurately account for individuals in an emergency. However, with these extra funds, the charter can use Raptor Technologies for essential tasks greatly needed at the campuses. This includes: capturing low-level concerns, conducting campus-based behavioral threat assessments and suicide risk assessments, and managing these cases.

By leveraging the grant program, Vanguard Academy will be able to supplement its current initiatives and provide additional resources, staff, and training to enhance the overall well-being of students.

9. Enter the LEA Total Enrollment:

5,950

10. Enter the Regional Educational Service Center that serves the LEA:

1

For TEA Use Only:

Adjustments on this page have been confirmed with _____ by _____ of TEA by phone / fax / email on _____.

CDN 108808 Vendor ID 742971562

Amendment # N/A

10. Equitable Access and Participation

Check the appropriate box below to indicate whether any barriers exist to equitable access and participation for any groups that receive services funded by this grant.

- The applicant assures that no barriers exist to equitable access and participation for any groups receiving services funded by this grant.
- Barriers exist to equitable access and participation for the following groups receiving services funded by this grant, as described below.

Group		Barrier	
Group		Barrier	
Group		Barrier	
Group		Barrier	

11. PNP Equitable Services

Are any private nonprofit schools located within the applicant's boundaries?

Yes No

If you answered "No" to the preceding question, stop here. You have completed the section. Proceed to the next page.

Are any private nonprofit schools participating in the grant?

Yes No

If you answered "No" to the preceding question, stop here. You have completed the section. Proceed to the next page.

Assurances

- The LEA assures that it discussed all consultation requirements as listed in Section 1117(b)(1) and/or Section 8501(c)(1), as applicable, with all eligible private nonprofit schools located within the LEA's boundaries.
- The LEA assures the appropriate Affirmations of Consultation will be provided to TEA's PNP Ombudsman in the manner and time requested.

Equitable Services Calculation

1. LEA's student enrollment	
2. Enrollment of all participating private schools	
3. Total enrollment of LEA and all participating PNPs (line 1 plus line 2)	
4. Total current-year grant allocation	
5. LEA reservation for direct administrative costs, not to exceed the grant's defined limit	
6. Total LEA amount for provision of ESSA PNP equitable services (line 4 minus line 5)	
7. Per-pupil LEA amount for provision of ESSA PNP equitable services (line 6 divided by line 3)	
LEA's total required ESSA PNP equitable services reservation (line 7 times line 2)	

For TEA Use Only:

Adjustments on this page have been confirmed with _____ by _____ of TEA by phone / fax / email on _____.

RFA/SAS # 701-23-120/634-24

2024-2025 Stronger Connections Grant

Page 9 of 11

CDN 108808

Vendor ID 742971562

Amendment # N/A

12. Request for Grant Funds

List all of the allowable grant-related activities for which you are requesting grant funds. Include the amounts budgeted for each activity. Group similar activities and costs together under the appropriate heading. During negotiation, you will be required to budget your planned expenditures on a separate attachment provided by TEA.

Payroll Costs

1.	Psychologist help students in stressful situations by teaching coping techniques. (22months)	\$122,909
2.	Social Workers will provide support services & intervene in crisis situations. (2 @ 22 months)	\$282,333
3.	Data Analysis Clerk will be collecting, analyzing and reporting data. (22 months)	\$91,667
4.	Salaries referenced include fringe benefits calculated at 16%.	\$79,505
5.		

Professional and Contracted Services

6.	Required 6% of funds for technical assistance provided by the regional ESC	\$60,000
7.	Required 10% of funds to the Texas Center for Student Supports	\$100,000
8.	Consultant will host workshops on identifying risk-factors, de-escalation, and more.	\$59,650
9.	Communities in Schools- to support and empower students to be successful.	\$90,000
10.		

Supplies and Materials

11.	Technology for safety and PD- (i.e., Radios, poster maker, flat panels, Chromebook)	\$13,086
12.	Halo Detectors-vape detection device for health & safety awareness in schools.	\$10,000
13.	Raptor System-software that enables schools to prevent & respond to emergencies.	\$14,500

Other Operating Costs

15.	Travel Costs for Conferences and Registration Fees for Threat Assessment Team.	\$11,000
16.	Travel Costs for training with Texas Student Support Center and Region ESC.	\$5,000
17.		

Debt Services

18.		
19.		

Capital Outlay

20.		
	Direct administrative costs:	\$20,000
	Indirect administrative costs:	\$40,350
	TOTAL GRANT AWARD REQUESTED:	\$1,000,000

For TEA Use Only:

Adjustments on this page have been confirmed with _____ by _____ of TEA by phone / fax / email on _____.

CDN 108808 Vendor ID 742971562

Amendment # N/A

Appendix I: Negotiation and Amendments

Leave this section blank when completing the initial application for funding.

An amendment must be submitted when the program plan or budget is altered for the reasons described in the "When to Amend the Application" document posted on the Administering a Grant page of the TEA website and may be mailed OR faxed (not both). **To fax:** one copy of all sections pertinent to the amendment (including budget attachments), along with a completed and signed page 1, to either (512) 463-9811 or (512) 463-9564. **To mail:** three copies of all sections pertinent to the amendment (including budget attachments), along with a completed and signed page 1, to the address on page 1. More detailed amendment instructions can be found on the last page of the budget template.

You may duplicate this page.

For amendments, choose the section you wish to amend from the drop down menu on the left. In the text box on the right, describe the changes you are making and the reason for them.

Always work with the most recent negotiated or amended application. If you are requesting a revised budget, please include the budget attachments with your amendment.

Section Being Negotiated or Amended	Negotiated Change or Amendment

For TEA Use Only:
Adjustments on this page have been confirmed with _____ by _____ of TEA by phone / fax / email on _____.