Liberte C. Dennis

January 26, 2017

LIS 540

**Disaster Grant Assignment**

**Describe the impact/level of disruption of the disaster on the school library program, include the type and date of the disaster. (150 words)**

During the night of January 2, 2017, the library at Parkside Elementary in Georgetown, Texas suffered extensive water damage to the library collection after lightening hit the school and a fire broke out in the janitor’s closet above the library. The library has been completely shut down for approximately three weeks to dry, clean, and re-organize the library after the ceiling was repaired.

The library serves 1,200 students and 60 staff members that are now unable to use the facility. Almost half of the collection primarily used by the kindergarten, first grade and other emergent readers was damaged. Two computers used to access the catalog and for student research and the only printer available to students in the library were ruined.

**Describe the extent of loss or damage to the school library collection of books, media and equipment. Include a percentage of the overall collection that was lost or damaged. (150 words)**

The water damage from the fire was mainly focused in the Every Reader(ER) section. Seven hundred fiction books on the A through J shelves were a complete loss. This represents about 10% of our total collection. However this loss is 47% of our ER section. One hundred additional books in this section had water damage but can be repaired. The water seeping through the ceiling also damaged two library computer kiosks used for research and access to the catalog. The only printer in the library available to students located between the two computers was also ruined.

**How do you plan to use the funds to alleviate the disaster or hardship to the school library program and collection? (150 words)**

Funds will be used to replace books and equipment damaged or destroyed during the disaster. Approximately 200 patrons use the library and its equipment daily. During this time of repair and reconstruction, the library is closed to everyone due to safety concerns. If the library were to reopen with its current circulating volume for the kindergarten through first graders, this would limit students to only being able to select one book a week for additional reading. It would greatly limit their experience as an early reader with limited availability to new books to expand their love for reading.

**Estimate the budget expenditures ($20,000) showing how the funds will be spent in the school library setting. Note, grant monies may not be used for furniture, shelving, curricular materials or classroom sets. (100 words)**

The primary focus is to replace damaged books. $20 x 700 books=$14,000. Funds will also be used to replace two computers used to access the catalog and for research ($3000), one laser printer ($1000), and repair water damage to collection pieces ($2000). Total grant money requested is $20,000.

**Describe any extenuating or unique circumstances that affect your school, community or library as a result of the disaster/hardship. (100 words)**

As a result of the fire’s water damage to the library, our campus population of 1,200 elementary school children and 60 teachers are unable to access the library. The closest public library for students to access is ten miles away. Students and teachers are now depending on two computer carts for students to use for research because they cannot access the library’s computer room because the entire wing is closed for cleaning. They also have limited access to a variety of books, only being able to use what is in their personal teacher library or grade level collection for additional reading material.