

**ENHANCING EDUCATION THROUGH TECHNOLOGY
GRANT COMPETITION – ROUND I
APPLICATION
2004**

APPLICANT INFORMATION AND CERTIFICATIONS

Applicant Information	
Lead School District Applicant (fiscal agent): Region 1	
Northern Lights Library Network and school districts within a 23 county area (see attached list)	
Contact name: Bob Wheeler, Executive Director	
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E-mail: bob@region1.k12.mn.us	
The signature of the superintendent, charter school director, or joint powers organization director below certifies that:	
This application is the official submission from the consortium represented by Region I.	
Nonpublic schools within the school district were consulted regarding the development of this proposal and were offered the opportunity to participate in the project .	
_____, 6/23/04	
Superintendent (Signature of Lead School District Superintendent or Director of Organization) (Date)	

Certifications
All school districts and/or charter schools participating in this grant proposal have a technology plan on file with the Minnesota Department of Education from either the 2001-2004 planning cycle or the 2004-2007 planning cycle.
6/23/04
Signature of Lead School District Superintendent or Director of Organization (Date)
All school districts and/or charter schools participating in this grant proposal are in compliance with the Children’s Internet Protection Act (CIPA).
6/23/04
Signature of Lead School District Superintendent or Director of Organization (Date)

Tax Information	
Name and Address of Fiscal Agent (if different from the lead individual and organization identified above):	
Minnesota Tax I.D. Number (This is a 7 digit number)	5258062
Federal Tax I.D. Number (This is a 9 digit number)	41-1313385

PROJECT SUMMARY

Summary of Grant Proposal
<p>Grant funds are being requested for the implementation of the North Star Library Consortium Project. The North Star Library Consortium Project is designed to improve student academic achievement by improving and increasing the effectiveness of school library media center programs throughout the region. This project will include the installation of an online, library automation system that is accessed via the web from a centrally hosted site. This advanced library automation system will allow increased services by providing expanded access to resources for students, teachers, parents and communities. Deployment of this library automation system in a centrally hosted manner will provide a cost effective means of not only expanding access to valuable media resources, but will allow time for media center staff to work more intentionally with students, teachers, and administrators. The goal of North Star Library Consortium Project is to create access for every student, in every classroom and in every community, to the wealth of library information resources. Improved information and technology literacy skills will benefit students throughout their entire lifetime.</p>

BUDGET

Proposed Budget Summary			
Item	Initialization Phase (Encumber by 9/24/04)	Implementation (Encumber by 9/30/05)	Total
Administrative	\$5,000	\$20,000	\$25,000
Equipment	\$35,000	0	\$35,000
Staff Development	\$25,000	\$100,000	\$125,000
Equipment maintenance	0	\$7,500	\$7,500
General supplies	0	\$5,000	\$5,000
Instructional materials, software	\$227,500		\$227,500
Other: Project Mgr	0	\$20,000	\$20,000
Evaluator	0	\$20,000	\$20,000
5 Library Leaders	0	\$25,000	\$25,000
Consultants	0	\$10,000	\$10,000
TOTAL	\$292,500	\$207,500	\$500,000

BUDGET NARRATIVE

1. **Administrative** (up to 5% of budget): This line item will be shared between Region I and Northern Lights Library Network (NLLN). Initialization \$5,000; Implementation \$20,000. Total Line Item: \$25,000.

2. **Equipment:** Hardware/software costs to provide the hosted application with Region I: Database Server @ \$10,000; Application Server @ \$10,000; System Firewall @ \$5,000; Backup System @ \$5,000; MS SQL Licensing @ \$4,000; W2000 OS Licensing @ \$500; Backup Exec Licensing @ \$500. Total Line Item: \$35,000 all expended during initialization.

3. **Staff Development:** For workshops and training outlined in the work plan and as allowed by the grant at 25% of total budget. Total line item: \$125,000 with \$25,000 expended during initialization and \$100,000 expended during implementation.

4. **Equipment Maintenance:** Estimated at \$7,500 during implementation stage for services from Region I. Total line item: \$7,500.

5. **General Supplies:** Estimate of \$277-278 per month x 18 months for postage, office supplies and other general supply needs. Total line item: \$5,000 all expended during implementation.

6. **Instructional Materials:** Purchase 90 licenses for the Follett *Destiny* software for utilization in 90 school sites. Initialization costs @ \$227,500. Total line item: \$227,500.

7. **Other:** Project manager, part time person on a contracted basis @ \$20,000; Evaluation Consultant/Evaluation Process @ \$20,000; Five (5) Library Leaders @ \$25,000; Additional Consulting Services (governance, planning, legal) @ \$10,000.

TOTAL BUDGET: \$500,000.

I. NEEDS ASSESSMENT/NEEDS JUSTIFICATION

Rural school libraries that participate in the North Star Library Consortium (NSLC) share many characteristics that speak to the need for this important project. Universally, school districts are impacted by local, state and federal budget cuts. In areas with declining enrollments, options continue to be reduced for students, families and communities. Among these needs is the growing digital divide that we see across our communities throughout northwest and west central Minnesota.

When it comes to technology, it can no longer be considered appropriate to even attempt to duplicate services on a district-by-district or library-by-library basis. The very nature of technology suggests that it should be a shared resource.

In order for rural school library programs to survive, it is absolutely essential that we recognize the need for cost saving efficiencies and then take the appropriate steps to

achieve those efficiencies. In order for rural school library programs to thrive in their support of student academic achievement, we need to be innovative and collaborative in our approach to, and utilization of, technology and resources. The North Star Library Consortium is an excellent response to the challenges facing school library programs. The project activities outlined in the grant application are consistent with the vision and intent of the legislation that created this funding.

If we are to begin to close the gap of the digital divide, and if we are to truly make progress in meeting the standards identified by the No Child Left Behind Act, then it is critical that we make investments in the infrastructure of school library systems. The North Star Library Consortium will serve as an important strategy in improving academic achievement of students as well as opening up an entire world to all children, families and communities. This is especially true in rural Minnesota where these needs are further magnified by the lack of financial resources, declining enrollments, and high levels of poverty.

Information is power in a knowledge-based society. In Minnesota, we must make investments in our school library media programs if we are to help students achieve information and technology literacy.

Technology Needs:

School Libraries have been left to face the difficult challenges and consequences of years, perhaps decades, of neglect and under-funding by state and federal funding sources. Not all libraries have been able to keep up with technology, nor the increasing demand for its ongoing development. There is no way that each individual school library can afford the software, technical support, staff development, and management of new technologies. In fact, they shouldn't have to try and do it alone. **The North Star Library Consortium proposes to be a part of the solution to this problem by creating a 21st Century web-based, centralized library management system, which will be available to all school districts in northwest and west central Minnesota. A project of this magnitude is only feasible when done as part of a consortium.** In so doing, we will be able to achieve cost savings and operational efficiencies while at the same time building capacity across each district and community, the outcome of which is enhanced access to technology services. Again, if information is power in a knowledge-based society, then it is not acceptable for us to allow some students and communities access while denying or limiting that same access to others. Closing the digital divide is clearly linked to increasing academic achievement of all learners. It is incumbent upon us to do so.

The above issues speak to the broader systemic needs we are proposing to address in this application. A growing body of library media center research supports the outcomes and strategies of the North Star Library Consortium.

Additional technology needs and barriers experienced by rural school libraries include:

- No school district in the NLLN region is a participant in MnLINK, the statewide library information network, or any other virtual union catalog.
- Twenty-seven percent of NLLN public schools report having no automated library system. The need is even higher in the private schools.
- The current library automation systems of many public school districts are outdated and in need of upgrading.
- Many public school districts have a library automation system in place for only a portion of their media centers (e.g., the high school is automated but not the elementary or middle school media center).
- Resource sharing in northwest Minnesota is not fully realized because of a lack of access to a virtual union catalog.
- Licensing costs have a tendency to restrict access by limiting the number of simultaneous users.
- Existing technologies and technical support in the school often confine the availability of information resources to the media center.

Staff Development Needs:

NLLN held focus groups throughout the region with school administrators and media center personnel, and received input from Minnesota Educational Media Organization (MEMO) regional meetings. The following issues were identified:

- There is a critical need to share human resources as well as technological resources in order for libraries to best serve their users and to achieve the highest standards.
- There is a need to overcome the isolation of professionals and to provide opportunities for library staff to work in partnership with colleagues that are geographically distant.
- Media specialists in the Northern Lights region currently depend on infrequent regional conferences, training programs at a distance (MnSCU and University of Minnesota), and colleagues, for their professional growth and support.
- The non-professional staff in school media centers has increasing needs for staff development and training due to increasing expectations of school media centers.

A statewide staff development survey of school media center personnel, *PUMP It Up!*, was conducted in spring 2004. The following were identified as the most pressing staff development training needs of professional and non-professional school media personnel working in the NLLN region:

1. Teaching research skills & information literacy
2. Teaching others to effectively search electronic databases (ELM) & the Internet
3. Teaching technology skills & technology literacy
4. Meeting media center and academic standards
5. Promoting the ethical use of information, including online information

6. Selecting books – updating school library collections
7. Integrating technology into the curriculum
8. Fostering a love of reading
9. Communicating and collaborating with teachers
10. Communicating with students

Resource Sharing Needs:

The North Star Library Consortium will provide an improved system for sharing the print and electronic resources available in the NLLN member library collections. In the NLLN region there has been a long-standing interlibrary loan (ILL) system that allows all member libraries to borrow from and lend to any other NLLN member library. At present, most schools participate in the ILL system on a limited basis, and primarily as borrowers from public and academic libraries, via the Area Interlibrary Resource Sharing (AIRS) program.

School libraries are not positioned to be lenders because their collections are not accessible, and interlibrary loan is limited because a regional virtual union catalog does not exist. The North Star Library Consortium will allow for improved resource sharing of information and materials by making collections accessible to users within and beyond the local media center. Implementation of standard interlibrary loan protocols will ensure the free flow of materials needed by library users in the NLLN region.

The virtual union catalog created by this project will improve accessibility to information resources and special collections in the NLLN region that are not currently available to students, teachers, parents, administrators, and the general public. Universal access to special and unique collections found in the schools and special libraries of the NLLN region will be realized for the first time.

II. NEEDS SCORING

School District/Composite Score	School District/Composite Score	School District/Composite Score
Ada-Borup #2854 (23)	Alexandria Schools #205 (15)	Ashby #261 (29)
Badger #676 (30)	Bagley #162 (29)	Barnesville #146 (22)
Battle Lake #542 (27)	Bemidji #31 (27)	Blackduck #32 (28)
Brainerd #181 (16)	Brandon #207 (30)	Breckenridge #846 (21)
Browns Valley #801 (37)	Evansville #208 (28)	Campbell-Tinah #852 (25)
Cass Lake-Bena #115 (33)	Chokio-Alberta #771 (22)	Fergus Falls #544 (16)
Clearbrook-Gonvick #2311 (31)	Climax #592 (36)	Crookston #593 (25)
Crosby-Ironton #182 (33)	Cyrus #611 (34)	Detroit Lakes #22 (24)
Dilworth-Glyndon-Felton #2164 (29)	East Grand Forks #595 (20)	Fertile-Beltrami #599 (31)
Fisher #600 (29)	Fosston #601 (30)	Frazee-Vergas #23 (21)
Goodridge #561 (44)	Greenbush-Middle River #2683 (22)	Grygla #447 (25)
Hancock #768 (22)	Hawley #150 (27)	Henning #545 (30)
Herman-Norcross #264 (28)	Kelliher #36 (54)	Kittson Central #2171 (24)
Lake Park Audubon #2889 (27)	Lancaster #356 (35)	Laporte #306 (32)
Mahnomen #432 (43)	Marshall County Central #441 (27)	Menahga #821 (32)
Minnewaska #2149 (22)	Moorhead #152 (29)	Morris #769 (22)
Nevis #308 (27)	New York Mills #553 (33)	Norman County East #2215 (23)
Norman County West #2527 (24)	Northland Community #118 (37)	Oklee #627 (29)

Osakis #213 (29)	Park Rapids #309 (32)	Parkers Prairie #547 (28)
Pelican Rapids #548 (39)	Pequot Lakes #186 (26)	Perham #549 (24)
Pillager #116 (25)	Pine Point #25 (47)	Plummer #628 (29)
Red Lake #630 (45)	Red Lake Falls #630 (26)	Roseau #682 (20)
Rothsay #850 (29)	Sebeka #820 (29)	Stephen-Argyle Central #2856 (29)
Thief River Falls #564 (22)	Tri County #2358 (31)	Ulen-Hitterdal #914 (27)
Underwood #550 (21)	Verndale #818 (23)	Wadena-Deer Creek #2155 (26)
Walker-Hackensack-Akeley 113 (28)	Warren-Alvarado-Oslo #2176(25)	Warroad #690 (23)
Waubun #435 (33)	West Central Area #2342 (23)	Wheaton #803 (26)
Win-E-Mac #2609 (28)	Bureau of Indian Affairs Schools:	Bug-O-Nay-Ge-Shig School
Circle of Life Survival School	Private Schools:	St Mary's Catholic School
Zion Lutheran School	St Philip School	St Francis School
St Mary's School	Holy Rosary School	Sacred Heart – High School
Sacred Heart – Elem School	Hillcrest Academy	Morning Sun Christian School
Our Lady of Victory School	Trinity Lutheran School	St Joseph School
St Mary's School	St Agnes School	St Henry's School
St Anne's School		

Total Needs Score for participants in this proposal: 2,306

III. PROJECT SCOPE AND DEVELOPMENT

Planning Process: The vision for the North Star Library Consortium grows out of a long history of database development and resource sharing in the Northern Lights Library Network (NLLN) region since 1978. In June, 2002, two school media centers and one special library which had participated in the Northern Lights Cooperative Automation Project (NCAP), began the search for an integrated library automation system that would best meet their needs and which could be shared by any school or special library in the NLLN region. The goal was to provide a regional, web-based, centrally administered, reasonably priced, Z39.50 compliant (MnLINK), union catalog and automation system that could be made available to any school or special library in the NLLN region.

In the summer of 2002, a planning committee was formed to research, test, evaluate and select an automation system to be shared, on a consortium basis, by NLLN's school and special libraries. The committee identified key elements in an automated system, reviewed 36 library automation systems, selected three systems to pursue in-depth, developed a request for information and invited two corporations to demonstrate their library automation systems. At the conclusion of this process, it was the recommendation of the committee to select Follett's *Destiny* program (at that time, in final stages of development) as the system that most closely met the long-term needs of a NLLN school and special library consortium.

During the 2002-2003 school year, the Waubun-Ogema Schools and Kittson Central Schools (Hallock/Kennedy) migrated to an interim Follett library management system and participated in the beta-testing and development of the *Destiny* system. Demonstrations of the *Destiny* software and long-term goals of a consortium were presented on various occasions at workshops and conferences attended by media specialists.

During the 2003-2004 school year, NLLN conducted virtual demonstrations of the completed *Destiny* system, provided a webinar on the process of library automation and migration, informed the library community about the North Star project via Newsletters, webpage information, workshop/conference presentations, electronic discussion groups and numerous individual contacts. During this time the project was discussed with the Minnesota Department of Education, with the 2 regional education service cooperatives, and within professional groups. Superintendents and technical support staff within the NLLN/Region I area were informed of the developments in the proposed project. Private schools, two Bureau of Indian Affairs Schools, and the special libraries within the NLLN region were included in these discussions, demonstrations, and news announcements. Throughout this period, the NLLN planning committee for the North Star Project continued to meet and to develop the project's scope.

The Partners: North Star Library Consortium is a joint project of Region I and Northern Lights Library Network (NLLN). It is important to understand the role of these two primary partners:

Region I: Serves as the applicant and fiscal agent for the North Star Library Consortium. Region I enjoys an excellent reputation with software application hosting services. They are easy to work with, highly respected and have a great track record. In addition, they have highly trained, expert staff, state of the art equipment and expertise in managing a sophisticated software system on behalf of many schools. Each of these attributes makes them uniquely positioned to be the hub of the North Star Library Consortium project. For this project, Region I will serve as the ASP, hosting the library management system. By working within an ASP environment, we have the benefit of cross platform deployment, which gives access to users with either Mac or PC desktops.

Northern Lights Library Network: Is a multi-county/multi-type library system that has worked on regional database creation, resource sharing, and library automation since 1978. NLLN facilitates cooperation between all types of libraries in a 23 county area and has a long-standing relationship with 84 school districts within this region. NLLN is well positioned to facilitate the vision for the North Star Library Consortium project, helping to clarify the goals and objectives of the program, facilitate communication among all the program participants, and provide on-going training and support to project participants.

Other Partners: Learning Network of Minnesota/NW-LINKS: The Learning Network of Minnesota (LNM) provides the critical telecommunications infrastructure that will make the North Star Library Consortium a success. NW-LINKS, our telecommunications cluster in northwest Minnesota, links schools, libraries, and higher education institutions on a private, high-speed network that includes both data and video connections. The North Star Project will greatly benefit by being able to build on the investment made by the state, and the continued investment made by our schools and communities, in the telecommunications infrastructure of our region.

Mn-LINK: The Minnesota Library Information Network (MnLINK) is a statewide, virtual union catalog of the major academic, public, and state agency libraries. Resource sharing and interlibrary loan, on a statewide basis, are possible through this integrated virtual catalog. The North Star Library Consortium will adhere to the Minnesota Standards for Library Automation Systems and will be fully compatible to the MnLINK system. By complying with these statewide standards, the North Star Project will be fully capable of serving as a MnLINK gateway server site and will be able to use Minnesota ILL protocols to lend and borrow materials between libraries of all kinds throughout the state.

The Project: Creating and participating in a virtual union catalog is a critical element of providing an effective 21st Century library media program and is possible only with a sophisticated library automated system. Helping all school libraries to build this capacity is best accomplished by working together as a consortium. This makes possible a sophisticated system and at an affordable price.

The school districts in the NLLN region are small, rural, and have very limited budgets. According to feedback from many of the school district superintendents and comments from school media specialists, there is limited financial ability to:

- implement state-of-the-art integrated library systems
- upgrade existing stand-alone systems
- purchase and maintain necessary servers and other equipment needed for a sophisticated library automation system.
- provide support technical staff for installation, maintenance, and upgrading software/equipment associated with the library automation system.
- afford systems that will be large enough to achieve economies of scale.

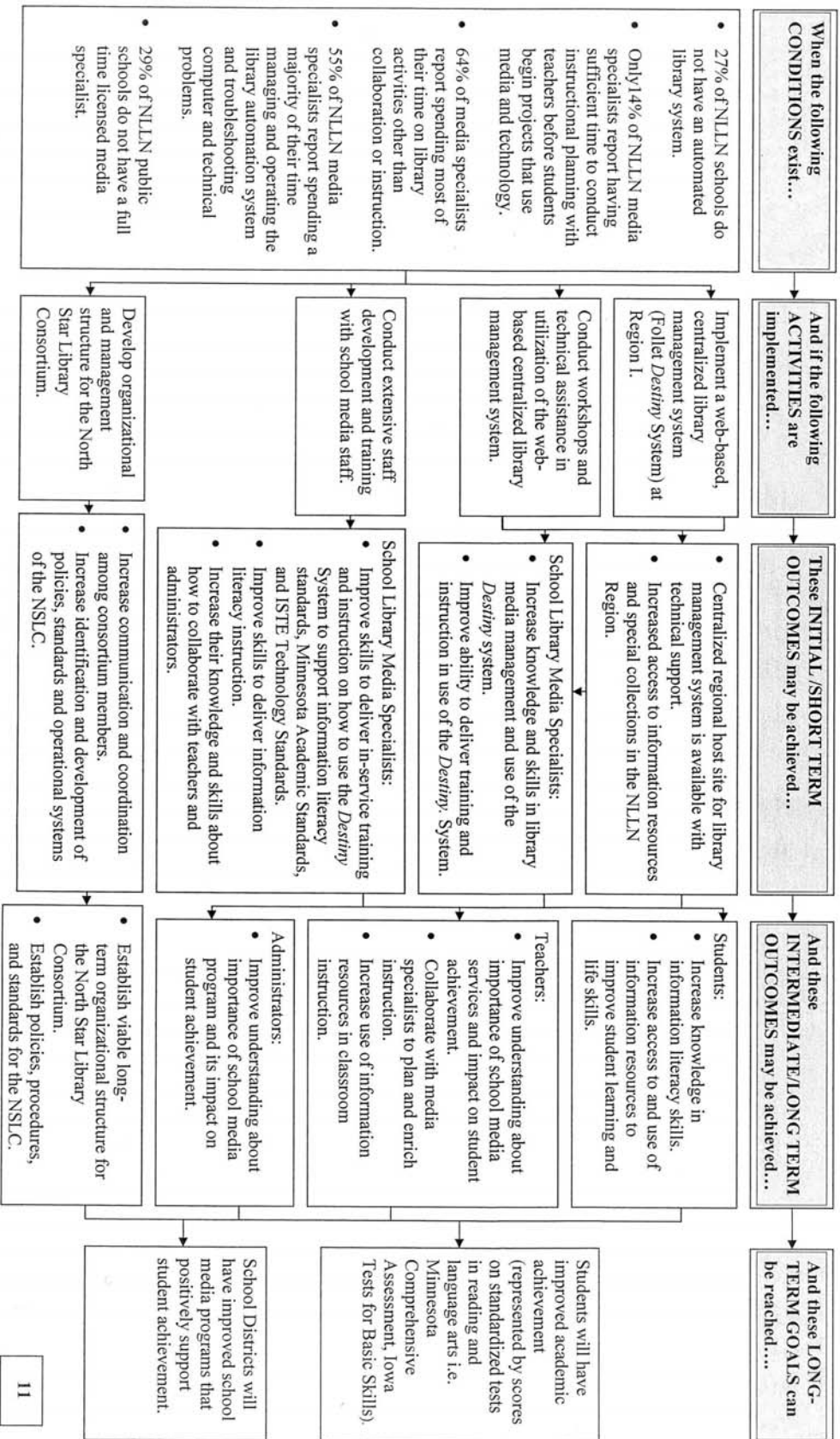
At the present time local technical support staff faces the following challenges:

- An ever-increasing number of computers, networks and software applications to maintain within the local school district.
- Staff is limited and response time to the needs of the media center depends on the competing priorities of other network and system needs of a school district.
- Improving and updating the library software and equipment currently depends on the cooperation and skill of technical staff that may not be trained in library database management or troubleshooting.
- Purchase and maintenance of local servers creates additional costs for local districts. The speed and capacity of local servers is often inadequate.

The North Star Library Consortium will provide a cost-effective solution for school districts and achieve economies of scale by sharing the costs of the library application software and the costs of installation, upgrades, backup, and technical support for a sophisticated integrated library system.

In spite of the cost efficiencies to be gained through this project, it is not possible to bring all eligible districts on board in the next 18 months. This project will incrementally add school sites/districts up to 90 licensed sites during the life of this project. To insure no library is left behind, the North Star Library Consortium will negotiate with the software company for additional licenses at this group rate to allow more districts to participate in the consortium after the grant funds have been expended.

IV. GOALS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE NORTH STAR LIBRARY CONSORTIUM PROJECT



V. WORK PLAN

Initialization Phase Work Plan: Major Activities
<p>NSLC Partners will be responsible for all aspects of the Initialization Phase of the project. The following tasks are to be accomplished from 9/1-12/31/04:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Final contract negotiation with Follett for licensing of <i>Destiny</i> software. 2. Purchase and install hosting server equipment for Region I for the web-based, centralized library management system. 3. Purchase <i>Destiny</i> software licenses from Follett Software Company 4. Train Region I staff in installation and technical support of <i>Destiny</i>. 5. Identify Tier One, Two and Three school districts from all participating districts and develop implementation plan. 6. Convene a group representing a cross section of consortium members to review consortium organizational models and policies; and to set consortium standards for participation in project. 7. Develop staff development/training implementation plan. 8. Preparation of evaluation plan for implementation.

Implementation Phase Work Plan: Major Activities	Time Line
<i>Implementation Readiness Tasks:</i>	
1. Secure letters of agreement with participating school districts until we have reached full capacity at 90 sites for the grant period.	Ongoing
2. Migration of first-tier libraries of Waubun-Ogema Schools, and Kittson Central Schools.	11/04-1/05
3. Training workshops for 2 nd and 3 rd tier libraries, including weeding, retrospective conversion, migration, and use of the <i>Destiny</i> system.	1/05-6/05
4. Migration of 2 nd tier libraries (those that require retrospective conversion or other extensive manipulation of files)	6/05-9/05
5. Migration of 3 rd tier libraries.	8/05-12/05
6. Additional Training/Demonstration of the North Star Library Consortium Project.	Ongoing
7. Conduct project evaluation	Ongoing
<i>Staff Development Tasks/Activities:</i>	
1. Training for the implementation/management of the <i>Destiny</i> library management system in each participating North Star LMC. Topics: Preparing the collection for migration, analysis of records, migration of records to central server site, setting local profiles, loading user records, use of cataloging, circulation, and public access catalog modules, customization of catalog, bar codes, reports, and training users – students, teachers, administrators, parents. 2-day training to be offered 5 times in the implementation phase of the project. 2 additional trainings will be scheduled if needed.	1/05-12/05

<p>2. Library Media Center Program Management topics. Available to all participants in the NSLC as well as any other LMC staff who would benefit from it. NLLN, MEMO, MnSCU/U of Minnesota, Project Consultants would conduct these workshops. 10 workshops throughout implementation phase.</p>	<p>1/05-9/05</p>
<p>3. Information Literacy Standards and the Library Media Center Program: What the standards are, how to incorporate them in the LMC program, how they affect student achievement, and how to share them with teachers, parents, and administrators. Full-day workshop offered twice during implementation of project. NLLN, MnSCU/UofMN, MEMO, MINITEX would be involved in creating and conducting these workshops.</p>	<p>1/05-12/05</p>
<p>4. Minnesota Academic Standards and the Library Media Center Program: What they are, how to incorporate them into the LMC instructional program, how they affect student achievement, how to share them with teachers, parents, and administrators. Full-day workshop, offered twice during implementation phase. NLLN, MnSCU/U of MN, MEMO, MINITEX would be involved in creating and conducting the workshops.</p>	<p>1/05-12/05</p>
<p>5. ISTE Technology Standards and the Library Media Center Program: What they are, how to incorporate them into the LMC Program, how they affect student achievement, how to share them with teachers, parents and administrators. Full-day workshop offered twice during implementation phase.</p>	
<p><i>Delivering of Staff Development & Training would utilize multiple formats and delivery systems, including:</i></p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
<p>*Workshop training events-1/2 day, whole day, multiple day. Use ITV when possible. Archive workshops, when possible, using audio/video streaming on website (30 events during the project, some presented multiple times as needed).</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
<p>*Development of print/electronic manuals, handbooks, guides – available for workshops, distribution, and posted on the website (related to 5 areas listed above and used in conjunction with workshops and training events).</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
<p>*Creating North Star On-Line Learning Center that includes webinars, video and audio streaming programs, electronic manuals/guides, self-paced tutorials, and diverse electronic resources (such as standards of all kinds) and links to other resources. (This includes archives from workshops/training events and items produced as mentioned above).</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
<p>*Establish User Group (includes all participants, Project Director, and project consultants) to allow interaction among media specialists, share best practices, develop policies and procedures for North Star, etc. Support group for media specialists working in isolation.</p>	

VI. EVALUATION

Evaluation will be an ongoing process throughout the 18-month grant period (August, 2004 to December 2005). Evaluation will be completed to determine the impact the North Star Library Consortium activities had on students, school media specialists, teachers, and administrators.

1. *How and to what extent are students helped by school media programs; do they have improved library technology skills as indicated by ISTE standards; do they have improved information literacy skills?*
2. *Did school media specialists grow in: their knowledge of library media management and the library media program?*
3. *Did teachers change as a result Consortium activities? Do they understand the importance of library media services; do they use and integrate information technology into their curriculum; do they collaborate with school media specialist?*
4. *Did Administrators change as a result of the Consortium activities? Do they understand the importance of library media programs and role of library media specialists?*
5. *Was a sustainable organization and management system created to support the operations of the consortium?*

Evaluation Design: The evaluation design will include the development and assessment of specific, measurable indicators for each outcome listed in the goals and objectives section on page 11 of the grant application. In addition to the locally developed indicators the evaluator will also monitor the four sets of research-based indicators of strong media programs, as developed by the researchers in *The Second Colorado Study (2000)*.

The impact of the teacher and student outcomes will be measured by the following:

- Impacts on Learning Survey – This survey was used in the Ohio Research Study, *Student Learning through Ohio School Libraries*, Ross, Todd J and Kuhotau, Carol C. (2004). Permission will be requested for use of the evaluation when grant funds are awarded. The web-based survey will be administered to randomly selected students in 3rd to 12th grades and to teachers to identify how the library has “helped” students with their learning. The survey consists of a Likert response to 48 statements of “helps” that consists of the following seven blocks: 1.) Find and locate information, 2.) Use information to complete school work, 3.) School Work in general, 4.) Using Computers in the school library, at school, and at home, 5.) General reading interests, 6.) Outside school, 7.) Some general reactions (academic achievement). The results of the survey and other data collected will provide a coherent picture of the nature and extent of “helps” provided by the school media library in relation to student learning.

Impact on School Media Specialists will be measured by the following:

- Pre/Post Test Survey: A brief, written survey will be developed and administered before and after each staff development workshop to assess growth in knowledge and skills in the five areas of staff development listed on pages 12-13.
- A self-report survey: A brief, written survey will be developed and administered to school media specialists at the beginning of the grant project and at the conclusion of the project to gain insight and perspective into the school media specialists' perception of their impact on student achievement.

The impact of the Administrator outcomes will be measured by the following:

- A brief, written survey will be developed and administered to school administrators at the beginning of the grant period and at the conclusion of the project to assess changes in their understanding of the importance of school media programs.

Impact of Collaboration/Development of North Star Library Consortium

Each consortium member, including the NLLN Office, will report on the positive and negative aspects of the project through written impact statements submitted at 12 months after installation and implementation of the North Star system in their library. Each impact statement will include the following:

- Ease of use of the system
- Costs effectiveness of the system
- Value to teachers, parents, administrators in achieving improved student achievement
- Value to users in having greater access to local resources
- Value to consortium members in terms of professional development and growth
- Value to consortium members in terms of technical support of the system
- Improved/increase resource sharing