

Request for Approval of Expenditure > \$10,000

April 2024

Furniture for:

- Team teaching pilot classrooms (2nd/3rd)
- Multipurpose space outside of 5th grade to facilitate 5th/6th grade core instruction in that space

Request:

Approve proposal to fund furniture expenditure. Approximately \$8,000 - \$10,000 of the teacher retention grant will be used for this project. The remaining funds are available in the current budget.

Background:

AFIA has partnered with SchoolSmartKC and Multistudio to study the impact of purposeful furniture on the success and sustainability of a team-teaching model in elementary classrooms. Freedom Interiors and HON were selected to support the furniture, fixture and equipment (FF&E) procurement efforts- providing no-cost design services and significantly reduced furniture costs. The goal of the furniture design is to:

- Increase impact and effectiveness of existing space to support the 5th and 6th grade programs and other needs across the building.
- Leverage existing gathering steps and corridors to better support small group breakout and classroom instruction.
- Replace old furniture that was donated to AFIA that is not as functional as necessary and some of which is broken.
- Visually establish a team-teaching culture, supporting both teachers equally and collaboratively in the space.
- Provide flexible space that supports the variety of roles and activities that happen throughout the day.
- Think of the full team space as communal space- supporting different functions and activities in different zones.
- Support fluid, active teaching that allows for project work, arts integrated instruction and student autonomy.

Design for the 2nd, 3rd, 5th and 6th grade spaces will utilize existing furnishings that can be blended and repurposed for cost savings. **HON has extended 70% discounting, a 50% savings off standard purchasing contracts. Multistudio and SchoolSmartKC are providing volunteer support for installation to reduce costs as well.**

Budget estimate for AFIA's investment in the spaces listed above and shown in the budget worksheet: \$23,500.

Reference article: [Designing Classrooms for Collaborative Teaching | Edutopia](#)