



STATE OF VERMONT
LEGISLATIVE JOINT FISCAL OFFICE

TO: Joint Fiscal Committee Members

FROM: Maria Belliveau, Associate Fiscal Officer

MB

SUBJECT: JFO #2841 – Grant from the Nellie Mae Education Foundation

DATE: August 31, 2016

The Joint Fiscal Office has received a request from the Administration for expedited review of a grant from the Nellie Mae Education Foundation in Quincy, Ma in the amount of \$7,500 to support the cost of the Secretary of the Agency of Education and a teacher from the State Board of Education to attend a conference in Reykjavik, Iceland. It is the first Atlantic Rim Conference and will be held from September 14 through the 15th, 2016. Also attending the conference is a member of the VT School Boards Association and the VT Superintendent's Association, however, the cost of their trip is not supported by this grant.

Please respond by Wednesday, September 7th with any questions or concerns. If I do not hear back from you by the 7th I will assume that you have approved this request.

RECEIVED
AUG 28 2016
phone 802-828-2276
JOINT FISCAL OFFICE

JFO# 2841

State of Vermont
Department of Finance & Management
109 State Street, Pavilion Building
Montpelier, VT 05620-0401

Agency of Administration

Request Expedited Review

**STATE OF VERMONT
FINANCE & MANAGEMENT GRANT REVIEW FORM**

Grant Summary:		To support attendance by the Vermont Secretary of Education and a teacher from the State Board of Education at the first Atlantic Rim Conference held in Reykjavik, Iceland on September 14 and 15, 2016. Attendees will also include a member of the VT School Boards Association and the VT Superintendent's Association.			
Date:		8/8/2016			
Department:		Agency of Education			
Legal Title of Grant:		Supporting VT Leaders on Atlantic Rim Trip			
Federal Catalog #:		N/A			
Grant/Donor Name and Address:		Nellie Mae Education Foundation, Quincy, Ma. 02169			
Grant Period:		From: 7/20/2016		To: 9/20/2016	
Grant/Donation		\$7,500			
	SFY 1	SFY 2	SFY 3	Total	Comments
Grant Amount:	\$7,500	\$	\$	\$7,500	
Position Information:		# Positions	Explanation/Comments		
Additional Comments:		Has Vantage budget detail been reviewed and reconciled? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <i>DS</i> (Analyst Initial)			
Department of Finance & Management		<i>DS</i>		(Initial)	
Secretary of Administration		<i>[Signature]</i>		(Initial)	
Sent To Joint Fiscal Office		<i>8/25/16</i>		Date	



AUG 8 - 2016

STATE OF VERMONT REQUEST FOR GRANT (*) ACCEPTANCE (Form AA-1)

BASIC GRANT INFORMATION				
1. Agency:	Education			
2. Department:				
3. Program:	Secretary's Office			
4. Legal Title of Grant:	Supporting VT Leaders on Atlantic Rim Trip			
5. Federal Catalog #:	n/a			
6. Grant/Donor Name and Address: Nellie Mae Foundation				
7. Grant Period:	From:	7/20/2016	To:	9/20/2016
8. Purpose of Grant: Funds support Secretary Holcombe's travel costs to participate in the Atlantic Rim Collaboratory for Education trip to Iceland in September. Travel Authorization previously approved by Michael Clasen.				
9. Impact on existing program if grant is not Accepted: None				
10. BUDGET INFORMATION				
	SFY 1	SFY 2	SFY 3	Comments
Expenditures:	FY 17	FY	FY	
Personal Services	\$	\$	\$	
Operating Expenses	\$7,500	\$	\$	
Grants	\$	\$	\$	
Total	\$7,500	\$	\$	
Revenues:				
State Funds:	\$	\$	\$	
Cash	\$	\$	\$	
In-Kind	\$	\$	\$	
Federal Funds:	\$	\$	\$	
(Direct Costs)	\$	\$	\$	
(Statewide Indirect)	\$	\$	\$	
(Departmental Indirect)	\$	\$	\$	
Other Funds:	\$7,500	\$	\$	
Grant (source Nellie Mae)	\$	\$	\$	
Total	\$7,500	\$	\$	
Appropriation No:	5100010000	Amount:	\$7,500	
			\$	
			\$	
			\$	
			\$	
			\$	
			\$	
		Total	\$7,500	

STATE OF VERMONT REQUEST FOR GRANT (*) ACCEPTANCE (Form AA-1)

Has current fiscal year budget detail been entered into Vantage? Yes No

PERSONAL SERVICE INFORMATION

11. Will monies from this grant be used to fund one or more Personal Service Contracts? Yes No
 If "Yes", appointing authority must initial here to indicate intent to follow current competitive bidding process/policy.


Appointing Authority Name: _____ Agreed by: _____ (initial)

12. Limited Service Position Information:	# Positions	Title
Total Positions		

12a. Equipment and space for these positions: Is presently available. Can be obtained with available funds.

13. AUTHORIZATION AGENCY/DEPARTMENT

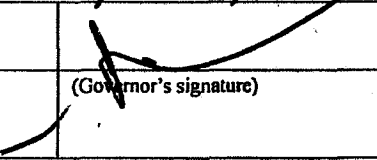
I/we certify that no funds beyond basic application preparation and filing costs have been expended or committed in anticipation of Joint Fiscal Committee approval of this grant, unless previous notification was made on Form AA-1PN (if applicable):

Signature: 	Date: 8/2/2016
Title: William Talbott	
Signature: _____	Date: _____
Title: _____	

14. SECRETARY OF ADMINISTRATION

Approved: _____ (Secretary of Administration signature) Date: 8/8/2016

15. ACTION BY GOVERNOR

Check One Box:
 Accepted  Date: 8/25/16

Rejected

16. DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED

Required GRANT Documentation	
<input type="checkbox"/> Request Memo	<input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Donation (if any)
<input type="checkbox"/> Dept. project approval (if applicable)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grant (Project) Timeline (if applicable)
<input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Award	<input type="checkbox"/> Request for Extension (if applicable)
<input type="checkbox"/> Grant Agreement	<input type="checkbox"/> Form AA-1PN attached (if applicable)
<input type="checkbox"/> Grant Budget	

End Form AA-1

(*) The term "grant" refers to any grant, gift, loan, or any sum of money or thing of value to be accepted by any agency, department, commission, board, or other part of state government (see 32 V.S.A. §5).



July 20, 2016

Suzanne Sprague
Vermont Agency of Education
120 State Street
Montpelier, VT 05620


Dear Suzanne

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Nellie Mae Education Foundation, I am pleased to notify you that the Vermont Agency of Education has been awarded a grant in the amount of \$7,500 to support VT Leaders on Atlantic Rim trip.

A Grant Agreement Form is on the next page for your review and signature. Our check for 80% of this grant will be disbursed to you after you have acknowledged acceptance of the grant and its conditions. The remaining 20% will be disbursed upon receipt and review of the report described in section two of the Grant Agreement Form.

Should you have any questions about the grant or its conditions, please contact Stephanie Cheney, Senior Grants Manager, at (781) 348-4240 or scheney@nmefoundation.org. Best wishes for continued success with your work.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

2234A738245147B

Nicholas C. Donohue
President and CEO

**NELLIE MAE EDUCATION FOUNDATION
GRANT AGREEMENT FORM**

On July 20, 2016 the Nellie Mae Education Foundation (Grantor) granted to the Vermont Agency of Education (Grantee), the amount of \$7,500 payable for Supporting VT Leaders on Atlantic Rim trip. Grantee agrees and consents to the following conditions of the grant:

1. Grantee will use the grant solely for the purposes stated in the accompanying cover letter, and Grantee will repay to Grantor any portion of the grant which has not been expended within the time period specified in the grant proposal.
2. Grantee will submit a final report to the Grantor when the work is completed. The report may be a brief email (1-3 paragraphs) that describes how the funds are/were used and/or any materials that have been created to document the work. The report should also indicate how much of the grant has been spent. The remaining 20% of the grant will be disbursed upon review and receipt of the report and/or materials. Reports should be emailed to Charlie Toulmin at ctoulmin@nmeffoundation.org
3. Grantee will advise the Foundation immediately if the federal government, IRS, or state or local authorities gives the Grantee notice of a change in its tax status.
4. Grantee shall not use any portion of the funds granted herein to carry on lobbying or otherwise to attempt to influence specific legislation, either by direct or grassroots lobbying, nor to carry on directly or indirectly a voter registration drive, nor to make grants to individuals on a non-objective basis, nor to use the funds for any non-charitable or non-educational purpose.
5. Grantee will secure for any participant who, at the time of participation, is under the age of 18 a parental consent form signed by the participant's parents or legal guardians, describing in adequate detail the nature, circumstances and duration of the minor's participation and authorizing the participant's participation.
6. If the grant is \$25,000 or greater, the grantee shall contact the communications department of the Nellie Mae Education Foundation before any media outreach/communication surrounding the awarding of the grant. The grantee will coordinate with Chiara Wegener, Communications Associate in order to develop an outreach strategy that serves the needs of both organizations. Chiara can be reached at 781-348-4239 and cwegener@nmeffoundation.org.
7. Grantee acknowledges that the funds provided by the Grantor are significant to the operations of the project, program or initiative named in the cover letter accompanying this Agreement. Grantee acknowledges it is able to be attentive to the operations of the Grantor through the signing of this Grant Agreement Form, the development of a Memorandum of Understanding, the submission of regular progress reports, and/or its on-going relationship with the program cluster and initiative.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this Grant Agreement is signed this day of 8/3/2016

Vermont Agency of Education (Grantee)

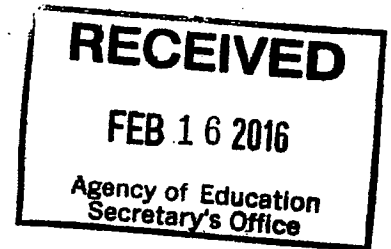
By William Talbott DocuSigned by:
William Talbott
704B3F0731544BC
(Officer, Director or Trustee of Grantee)

Deputy Secretary, VT Agency of Education



BOSTON COLLEGE

ANDY HARGREAVES
THOMAS MORE BRENNAN CHAIR IN EDUCATION



February 8, 2015

Rebecca Holcombe,
Secretary of Education
Vermont Agency of Education
219 North Main Street, Suite 402
Barre, VT 05641
(802) 479-1030
Rebecca.Holcombe@state.vt.us

Dear Rebecca,

I am delighted to attach the formal invitation to participate in the Atlantic Rim Collaboratory in September in Iceland. You were one of the very first to show enthusiasm for this idea and I am thrilled to invite you formally as this becomes a reality. The invitation is self explanatory in most respects. It might be helpful to add a couple of points here.

As you know, the idea of this Summit has been under discussion with several governments for more than a year- all by personal contact and communication. For instance, with my partners at Conexus, I met with state officials in Sweden a week last Friday. Based on many conversations we have had with large systems in the past two years, we have come to believe there is a real need to shift and expand the narrative of educational change globally to include the values and directions within the invitation. Vermont will be an extraordinarily good fit for this group and was the very first state we approached (and the only one of two) and it will be able to help move the world of education in a bold yet specific new direction. In the current climate of ESSA, we hope it will also help Vermont lead other states in a humanistic, equitable and professionally run direction.

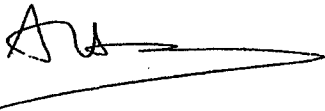
Formal invitations were sent on Friday to Norway and Sweden. Today, the remaining invitations are sent to Ontario, California and Scotland. Iceland are included as the hosts of course. Once the replies have been received from this first wave, we will then invite a second smaller group to join us. It would be very helpful if you can respond formally in the next few days.

Our job is to make this summit happen and bring people together with top thought leaders (including Pasi Sahlberg) and a world class facilitator. The group may and should then set its own direction within the broad terms of the initial value statement. This may include the actions listed in the letter, system peer-reviews, thematic reviews of areas like boys' achievement, math education etc, developing indicators, making a declaration of purpose - even changing the name!!

I would personally be honored if Vermont would join us. The world will turn even more towards your state and system as you do so, but more importantly it is with your leadership and participation that we can also help turn the world.

By the time you get this letter we will have met at HGSE.

Yours most sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'AH', with a long horizontal line extending to the right from the end of the signature.

Andy Hargreaves
Thomas More Brennan Chair in Education
AH/kt



Reykjavik, Iceland 24.November 2015

Invitation to the Atlantic Rim Collaboratory

This is an invitation to join the inaugural summit for the *Atlantic Rim Collaboratory* for education. Founded by Professor Andy Hargreaves, Brennan Chair in the Lynch School of Education at Boston College, this initiative establishes a global group of educational systems that advances equity, excellence, wellbeing, democracy and human rights for all students within high quality, professionally run systems. The leaders of these systems realize this by promoting improvement, innovation and inclusion in schools and larger societies.

You are invited, together with a selected group of other systems, because you have demonstrated it is possible and desirable to support and advance Atlantic Rim values in education. The first summit will be hosted in Iceland September 14 and 15, 2016. Its purpose is to:

- Define/redefine the vision for the Collaboratory.
- Create a strategy to achieve it.
- Commit to the Collaboratory and its work over three years.

Core skills in literacy, numeracy and problem solving are vital. In a world of economic transformations, growing inequalities and rapid change, it is also important to broaden and deepen our approach to how we interpret and improve high quality educational systems for all our students.

The Collaboratory will build on current strengths and strategies of your own and other educational systems with the intention of improving them over time through deliberately designed processes. It will seek out and spread current best practices, and also develop next practices that represent Atlantic Rim values, alongside existing OECD and UN initiatives.

We are inviting small groups of educational and political leaders from each system, along with five globally renowned thought leaders and a world class facilitator. In the first summit, in accordance with the Atlantic Rim vision, we will inquire into and articulate the existing strengths of the participating systems, share and circulate knowledge across them, discuss system-by-system strategies for making further progress towards the vision and develop collective responsibility for shared success and global impact.

We hope we can look forward to your participation in this initiative. Please respond to the Secretary for the Atlantic Rim Collaboratory at the address below.

Andy Hargreaves
Founder
Boston College
andrew.hargreaves@bc.edu

Yngve Lindvig
Secretary
CR&DO Conexus
yngve@conexus.no

Illugi Gunnarsson
Minister of Education,
Science and Culture
Iceland

Beatty, David

Subject: FW: AA-1

From: Holcombe, Rebecca

Sent: Friday, August 05, 2016 5:29 AM

To: Flanagan, Kathy <Kathy.Flanagan@vermont.gov>

Cc: Talbott, Bill <Bill.Talbott@vermont.gov>; Beatty, David <David.Beatty@vermont.gov>

Subject: Re: AA-1

Hi Kathy,

We were invited by an international consortium to bring a team of VT stakeholders to represent VT's efforts to improve education quality and to collaborate on cross-sector and cross stakeholder strategies for leading state and national level school improvement.

The team includes VSBA, VSA and a teacher from the State Board of Education and me.

The only other invited state is California. Ontario, CA will be there, as will representatives of some Atlantic Rim countries.

Most partners are paying for themselves. The grant should cover one person from the AOE and the teacher from the SBE.

Do you have the initial invite and the proposal for the grant, or do you need those?

Thanks.

Rebecca

Rebecca Holcombe, Secretary of Education
Vermont Agency of Education
219 North Main Street, Suite 402
Barre, VT 05641
(802) 479-1060
Rebecca.Holcombe@vermont.gov



VERMONT

2017T-

AGENCY OF EDUCATION

001

AUTHORIZATION FOR OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL And/Or TRAVEL ADVANCE

Fund	22005
DeptID	5100011000
Program	49111
Project	51821015
Class	

Justification (name of event and reason for attending, attach event agenda): Atlantic Rim Collaboratory for Education

Will any costs be paid by another organization? If so, provide the name of the organization: Atlantic Rim Collaboratory

Out of State Travel/Travel Advance Request

Date Submitted: 02/24/2016

Employee ID: 29547

Employee Name: Rebecca Holcombe

Employee Position Title: Secretary

Employee E-mail: rebecca.holcombe@vermont.gov

Originating Location: Norwich, VT

Destination: Iceland

Departure Date: September 13, 2016

Return Date: Sepetmebr 16, 2016

Leave Time (if applicable):

Total Advance Requested (\$200 minimum):

Important Notice

By signing and submitting this form, I agree that the funds advanced to me will be used for the purposes stated in this form.

I understand that this note is due and payable on or before the 10th business day following my return from this trip and that this amount must be applied to my expense report submitted upon my return.

If my expense report is not sufficient to cover the full amount of the advance, I agree to pay the difference. The Agency will seek payment of any delinquent loan from me and will not grant any more advances until the delinquent loan is repaid.

By signing below, I certify the requested travel is appropriate and necessary for conducting official State business, and agree to comply with the Agency of Administrations's Bulletin 3.4: Employee Travel & Expense Policy.

Employee Signature: *[Signature]* Date signed: 2/24/16 Director's initials: Deputy's initials:

Estimated Costs to State

Type of Expense	Description of Expense	Expense Amount	# Days or Meals	Total Expense	Check boxes as applicable			
					Emp Reimb	3rd Party Reimb	AOE Paid	AOE Not Paid
Airfare	Airfare			\$0.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ground Transp (Trip Calc)	mileage Norwich, VT to airport			150.00	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Registration (Reg Form)				\$0.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lodging			0	\$0.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Meals	Breakfast	\$6.25	3 012X	\$0.00	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Meals	Lunch	\$7.25	4 02W	\$0.00	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Meals	Dinner	\$18.50	3 055.50	\$0.00	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Incidentals								
Parking	parking at MHT			75.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Baggage				\$0.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Internet				\$0.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (itemize)	tips			50.00	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GRAND TOTAL EXPENSES				\$0.00				

378.25

Travel Advance Request can not exceed Estimated Employee Reimbursement Cost. \$200 minimum advance. Whole dollars only.

This authorization to travel out-of-state is hereby approved and this Agency acknowledges its obligation to reimburse the State for any default of payment by this employee of funds advanced for the purpose of this travel.

Approved by Agency Head or Authorized Agent (see Bulletin 3.4): Michael Clasen, Deputy Secretary, Agency of Administration

(Please print or type name of approver.)

Approval Signature: *[Signature]* Date Approved: 2/24/16

Any 3rd party reimbursement forms are submitted to Cassie with all information and instructions.

tin 3.4 - Reimbursement for Travel Related Expenses

FEB 29 2016

Welcome to the Atlantic Rim Collaboratory

Welcome to the Atlantic Rim Collaboratory for education. It is now official. We are delighted to receive your confirmation that you will be bringing a team to the first summit, including a minister and deputy minister or equivalent, and a leader of one of the professional associations.

Founded by Professor Andy Hargreaves, Brennan Chair in the Lynch School of Education at Boston College, the initial vision of the Atlantic Rim Collaboratory is to establish a global group of educational systems that advances equity, excellence, wellbeing, inclusion, democracy and human rights for all students within high quality, professionally run systems. Core skills in literacy, numeracy and problem solving will always be vital. In a world of economic transformations, growing inequalities and rapid change, it is also important to broaden and deepen our approach to how we interpret and improve high quality educational systems for all our students.

The founding systems to join are, in alphabetical order:

Alberta
Aruba
California
Iceland
Norway
Ontario
Scotland
Vermont

The first summit will be hosted in Iceland, at the Hilton Reykjavik Hotel, September 14 and 15, 2016. There is an additional opportunity to visit Icelandic educational and cultural institutions on September 13th. The purpose of the summit is to:

- Co-create new narratives of high-quality education.
- Define or redefine the vision for the Collaboratory.
- Co-create a realistic strategy to achieve it.
- Commit to achieving implementation and outcomes over at least 3 years.

The Collaboratory will build on current strengths and strategies of your own and other educational systems with the intention of improving them over time through deliberately designed processes. It will seek out and spread current best practices, and develop next practices that reflect Atlantic Rim values, alongside existing OECD and UN initiatives. The Collaboratory will also develop collective responsibility for shared success and global impact.

This group will energize member systems with agendas determined by themselves; stimulate discourse by providing high level contact with world thought leaders; widen and deepen the global narrative of educational change; and lead to clear, collectively determined outcomes, such as:

- A common declaration initiating a new global direction for education
- Development of broad indicators in line with Atlantic Rim values
- Peer-review and critical friendships among the participating systems
- Thematic reviews on urgent topics decided by the participants, e.g. boys' achievement, mathematics performance, education of refugees.

The summit will be organised with roundtable discussions between carefully selected high-level politicians, administrators, researchers and educational innovators. Here educational ministers and staff will discuss education and education policy together with influential educational thinkers. The detailed agenda will be developed in cooperation with the founding systems.

The ARC-summit will honour the 30th anniversary of the meeting between President Reagan and President Gorbachev in Iceland in 1986. In the 1986 meeting Gorbachev was asked to "tear down this wall". One of the founding ideas behind Atlantic Rim is to tear down the walls between countries and regions, as well as between educational researchers and politicians, to pursue the most fundamental ideas of what it means to be educated in today's world for the mutual benefit of all ARC-systems and future generations of students worldwide.

Questions you may have now regarding the strategic focus and content of the ARC summit may be addressed to the founder, Andy Hargreaves. All other issues on logistics and organization should be addressed to the ARC secretary Yngve Lindvig.

We are looking forward to this exciting work.

Andy Hargreaves
Founder
Boston College
andrew.hargreaves@bc.edu

Yngve Lindvig
Secretary
Conexus
yngve@conexus.no

Illugi Gunnarsson
Minister of Education
Iceland
<https://eng.menntamalaraduneyti.is>