

May 5th, 2014

Please accept this cover letter and subsequent application materials for the 2014 ING Run For Something Better School Award Program.

Our district has received 103 signed letters of commitment from parents with students in grades four, five, and six during the school year expressing interest in student participation in an 8 week long, 3 day a week program held directly from the hours of 3:00-4:00 during the months of September through November. We are excited and encouraged by this overwhelming response and hope ING RFSB funds will enable us to continue the excellent program that we were able to establish during the 2013-2014 school year.

Several characteristics that highlight our school's need for a program of this nature are:

- Our district is located in a largely rural area in which there is no organization within district limits that organizes youth athletics and activities other than the school. The fact that 44.4% of our students receive free or reduced lunch, gives insight into the fact that many families within our district could not afford to enroll their students in youth athletic programs. ING RFSB solves both these problems by offering a free program accessible by all students within the school.
- Physical Education at our district is only offered once every four days for 40 minutes. This falls far below the recommendation of 150 minutes per week. ING RFSB will improve our ability to increase the quantity and quality of physical education at our district by offering an after school program instructed by certified health and physical education teacher.
- We are ready and willing to use ING RFSB as an instrument of change in our students' lives and within our own curriculum. If funds are received through ING RFSB and the program is adopted we are ready to instituted curriculum changes in physical education that will advertise and promote the school running program through monthly running events and/or physical activity challenges that are open to the entire student body. We believe that these events will draw new students to the running program, highlight the improved skills/fitness of student participants, and provide motivation for students enrolled in the program to stay active throughout the year.

Please do not hesitate to contact me concerning our ING RFSB program and application.

Sincerely,