



GRANT PROPOSAL: HUMAN INTELLIGENCE: BUILDING SOFT SKILLS FOR THE AGE OF AI

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

As artificial intelligence (AI) becomes a daily part of students' academic and social lives, it is essential that schools prepare them not just to use technology, but to thrive alongside it. The Human Intelligence program aims to teach students critical "soft skills" such as communication, collaboration, creativity, emotional intelligence, and critical thinking, skills that AI cannot replicate, yet are crucial for success in the workforce and community.

Through interactive workshops, hands-on projects, and teacher-led modules, students will learn how to responsibly engage with AI tools while strengthening their uniquely human capacities for empathy, problem-solving, and innovation.

STATEMENT OF NEEDS

Today's students are growing up in a world where AI tools, from chatbots to generative art platforms, are influencing how they think, learn, and communicate. While these tools can enhance learning, they also risk limiting authentic student engagement, social interaction, and critical analysis if not balanced with strong interpersonal and cognitive skills.

Many educators express uncertainty about how to integrate AI into classrooms ethically and effectively, without diminishing human creativity and communication. This program bridges that gap by providing a practical, skills-based framework that teaches both students and teachers how to think with AI, not for it.

PROJECT GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Goal

To equip students with essential soft skills and digital literacy to thrive in an AI-integrated educational and professional environment.

Objectives:

- Enhance Communication & Public Speaking:
 - Students will develop confidence in presenting ideas, debating ethical AI issues, and collaborating in teams.
- Foster Critical Thinking & Media Literacy:
 - Through guided AI-related projects, students will learn to question, verify, and synthesize information generated by AI systems.
- Build Emotional Intelligence & Empathy:
 - Activities will help students recognize and express emotions, manage digital stress, and engage respectfully in online and offline spaces.
- Empower Educators:
 - Teachers will receive training on how to integrate AI responsibly in the classroom, while maintaining human-centered learning.



PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Human Intelligence program includes:

- **Student Workshops (6–8 sessions):**

Interactive lessons on communication, teamwork, leadership, and ethics in technology.

Example topics:

- “How to Think Critically in the Age of AI”
- “AI and Authentic Voice: How to Use Tools Without Losing Yourself”
- “The Art of Public Speaking in a Digital World”

- **Teacher Training & Resources:**

Professional development sessions on integrating AI literacy with SEL (social-emotional learning) and critical thinking.

- **Capstone Project:**

Students work in teams to develop a short presentation or community project exploring an AI-related challenge and its human impact.

- **Community Showcase:**

A culminating event where students present their projects, demonstrating both technical understanding and interpersonal growth.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES:

By the end of the program, participants will:

- Demonstrate improved communication and collaboration skills.
- Show measurable increases in critical thinking and ethical awareness regarding AI use.
- Exhibit greater confidence in public speaking and teamwork.
- Teachers will report improved ability to integrate AI responsibly into curricula.

EVALUATION & ASSESSMENT:

Program success will be measured through:

- Pre- and post-program student surveys on confidence and skill development.
- Teacher feedback and classroom integration assessments.
- Student presentations and participation metrics.

BUDGET OVERVIEW

Category	Description	Cost
Facilitator Fees	Workshop leaders, guest speakers	\$4,000
Materials & Supplies	Workbooks, printed materials, student kits	\$1,500
Technology	AI software subscriptions, digital tools, student access licenses	\$2,000
Teacher Training	Professional development sessions and digital toolkit	\$2,000
Student Showcase	Venue, materials, refreshments	\$1,000
Program Evaluation	Surveys, reporting, data analysis	\$500
Administration Costs	Coordination, scheduling, communications, and reporting	\$1,000
Total Estimated Budget		\$12,000

SUSTAINABILITY PLAN:

After the initial pilot year, the program will provide schools with an open-source “Soft Skills + AI Integration” toolkit and training guides for teachers. Schools can continue offering the curriculum annually with support from Research & Learning Solutions and community volunteers.

CONCLUSION:

In a rapidly changing digital world, the most valuable skill is still being human. The Human Intelligence program ensures that while students learn to use AI, they also strengthen the empathy, communication, and creativity that make them resilient, responsible, and innovative leaders of tomorrow.

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