

## **Mountain PTA Grant Request**

**Request made by: Taylor Carretti (SLP, Mountain K-6)**

Most often, speech therapists try to adjust speech sound disorders by drill-and-practice, when there are larger underlying oral development issues. When this is the case, students may be in speech therapy for much longer than actually needed. I am requesting a grant to assist in the payment of a virtual conference that would essentially change my entire approach to speech and language disorders. The field of speech-language pathology has a growing area of research and practice called orofacial myology. Having more expertise in orofacial myology will allow me to apply evidence-based strategies to speech problems at their root. If I am better able to treat the root of the speech disorder, students will have better outcomes in their academic skills (literacy, spelling, and overall communication) and spend less time in pull-out speech services.

### **Conference information**

- **Title:** *OMD Deconstructed: A Multidisciplinary Approach to Orofacial Myofunctional Disorders [March 12-19 2021]*
- **Dates:** March 12-19th, with videos accessible until May.
- **Conference webpage:**  
<https://talktools.com/pages/talktoolsglobalonlineconferenceregistration>
- **Cost: \$650-800 depending on the conference package selected**
  - *Receiving a grant in any amount would be tremendously helpful to achieve my goal of advancing my practice for the bettering of our students.*

Thank you for your consideration,

Taylor Carretti M.A., CCC-SLP