***Dragoo Goes Pop!* Phase III Project Proposal**

**OVERVIEW: Phase III** of the project encompasses making *Dragoo Goes Pop!* available in an English-Spanish version for the two Temple ISD campuses (Hector P. Garcia and Thornton) with English as a Second Language program (ESL) so ***every*** child will have the story of Dragoo in a book in their primary language as well as English. The translation of the book will be vetted by TISD for accuracy and approval; each page of the book will be modified to include Spanish along with English. English-Spanish versions of the Phase I posters will also be created. Our club will fund the publishing of the books. Altrusa book labels will be attached to all books.

This phase is important to:

* Provide equal access of Dragoo to *ALL* kindergarten and 1st grade students in TISD,
* To allow the ESL students the opportunity to fully understand the enrichment activities provided,
* Allow parents who are not bilingual to read Dragoo at home to their children,
* Helping ESL students compare words and sentence structure and activating background knowledge,
* Allow community partners to assist in this phase increases our brand awareness and willingness to work with others in our community.

**SPECIFICS:**

The mission of the project has many facets, the least of which is to provide students with a book of their own. The content of the book promotes desirable characteristic qualities--Dragoo smiles a lot and is friendly, cheerful, helpful, a good listener, and a problem-solver. The book is also a fabulous foundation for lessons that have been developed that support TEKS (Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills) in language arts/reading, mathematics, science, social studies, physical education, art, music, and theatre. It is also an excellent foundation for the enrichment activities that have been developed offering opportunities for developing language, communication, creativity and motor skills.

By providing the book in an English-Spanish version, ESL students will have *equal*access to the book content as the basis for all lessons and enrichment activities. Bilingual books have been shown to have many benefits for English language learners including building vocabulary, reinforcing native language, introducing vocabulary in context, helping parents read with their children, helping students compare words and sentence structure and activating background knowledge.

When Dr. Watson was asked to speak to the question as to the best use of dollars to reach the identified need according to the school officials, her response was as follows: “Offering *Dragoo Goes Pop!* in English and Spanish is an important step in showing our community of student learners and their parents that their heritage/culture matters.  Our Bilingual framework is an early exit program.  So, during the Kindergarten and First grade years, students are making the connection of how their native language correlates to English.  Our bilingual students learn through pictures and lots of conversations making those connections.  Having a book that shows both is invaluable.”

English-Spanish versions of the posters created for Phase I will also be prepared for the two campuses.

**TRANSLATION**: The book has been translated by Jane Gibson. The translation has been submitted to Dr. Watson and she is having her Director of Bilingual/ESL and Coordinator of Bilingual/ESL *review it for accuracy and approval prior to its publishing*. Such work is one of the main responsibilities of these staff members--nothing ESL gets to the classroom without them vetting it. Poster content will also be reviewed for accuracy and approval.

The current pages of the book will be scanned in and modified to include both English and Spanish by a member of the Dragoo Crew and be *made available to Integ for printing and binding by Lisa and Johnny Walker.*

Altrusa membership will be asked to place Altrusa book labels in the books prior to their distribution in March 2025.

**BUDGET**:

The Dragoo Crew was approached by several organizations regarding an opportunity to participate in the *Dragoo Goes Pop!* project. Note that checks have already been received and deposited in the Foundation Account totaling $3,300. Funds given were accepted with the understanding that they may be used for *any* phase of the *Dragoo Goes Pop!* project. Additionally, another community partner has expressed willingness to cover the cost of printing the posters. The budget request is up to $2,388.

