Student Opportunity Act Plan

Cohasset

# Commitment 1: Focusing on Student Subgroups

*Student subgroups requiring focused support to ensure all students achieve at high levels in school and are successfully prepared for life.*

* Students with disabilities

*The rationale for selecting these student subgroups.*

The Cohasset Public Schools are committed to ensuring that all students meet with success in school and after graduation. The District understands that not all student groups meet with the same success at this time. Cohasset Public Schools also understands that the impact of COVID-19, remote learning, and hybrid learning have impacted student learning. Although the District has great concern for all our students, the students with Special Needs are a group that has been impacted greatly during this time. There also concern about the increase in student determined to have a Specific Learning Disability (SLD) in reading at the upper grades and that students with special needs show a lower MCAS score. In order to reduce the achievement gap, students in grades Kindergarten through grade 2 have been targeted in the area of improved reading skills. The subgroup that will be specifically targeted are students with special needs.

**Commitment 2: Using Evidence-Based Programs to Close Gaps**

***Focus Area 1:***  Research-based early literacy programs in pre-kindergarten and early elementary grades (E, F, and G)

Reducing the reading achievement gap for all students has been a priority for the Cohasset Public Schools and in particular at the early childhood level. In addition, there has been a focus on ensuring that all students have what they need to succeed based on their needs. The District has been and will continue to ensure that students receive Research-based early literacy programing in pre-kindergarten and early elementary grades. The Cohasset Public Schools determined that a focus on phonics was a need and purchased Fundations for grades K through grade 3. Several teachers have been trained in Wilson Reading Program to support students who need a deeper intervention. The Lexia Program is being used by all students which is an adaptive program that increases student learning at their pace and also allows teachers to follow the progress of each student and provide specific targeted instruction. In order to support all students in reading and/or math the elementary schools have adopted a model of intervention that allows for small group targeted instruction which address a particular skill at the appropriate level of the student multiple times a week. (Although the pandemic has impacted this intervention model, the elementary schools will return to this model when allowed.) All students move during this time therefore reducing any stigma that may come with the need to go to a different room for support. Students with special needs will be the subgroup of focus. Although all the elementary schools in Cohasset participate in the above programs, the Joseph Osgood Elementary (PrK-2) will be the school that will be the focus as it is the early childhood school in town.

Reading Street is currently the core reading program; however, the current program is expired, and the district is convening a Literacy Committee to review the current program and the needs of the students as well as begin the adoption process of a new program based on a balanced literacy approach for grades Prk-5. Past practice has not included PrK in this process.

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|  | **FY21 budget item** | **Amount: enter number, do not use the $ character** | **Foundation Category** |
| **1** | **Wilson Training for Staff** | **3000** | **Professional Development** |
| **2** | **Lexia** | **90000** | **Instructional Materials, Equipment, and Technology** |

**Commitment 3: Monitoring Success with Outcome Metrics and Targets**

*Outcome metrics that will be used to measure progress in closing gaps for selected student groups.*

* Student Achievement: English language arts (ELA) achievement as measured by average scaled scores on MCAS
* Student Growth: ELA mean student growth percentile (SGP)
* Custom District Metric 1: OWL Assessment
* Custom District Metric 2: DIBEL 8 Edition
* Custom District Metric 3: DRA
* Custom District Metric 4: Percentage of Students identified with SLD in Reading

**Commitment 4: Engaging All Families**

*District plans for ensuring that all families, particularly those representing identified student subgroups most in need of support, have access to meaningful engagement regarding their students’ needs.*

Family engagement is key, and the Cohasset Public Schools is working hard to engage all families, but the district understands that not all families are engaged at the same levels. In addition to monthly SEPAC, School Council, and PSO meetings, there will be additional parent programs to explain reading and what families can do at home. The pandemic has shown that there are many ways to engage families that do not include being in the school building, therefore parent programs will be able to be accessed in a variety of ways. Also, the Literacy Committee will begin its work to review the literacy at the elementary level and adopt a new literacy program. That work will include a variety of stakeholders including parent participation in the process.

**Certifications**

*Certification that stakeholders were engaged in accordance with the Student Opportunity Act.*

Although we have kept stakeholders approved of the plan we are still in process. The plan will be shared with SEPAC, School Council and PSO in the months of January and February. In addition, the Literacy Committee will begin their work in the month of February. This will involve community and families as we review our current ELA model at the elementary level and adopt a new program.

*Certification that School Committee has voted (or is expected to vote on the district’s Student Opportunity Act Plan.*

Date of Approval: 1/20/2021