Student Opportunity Act Plan

Franklin

# 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
* High Needs students (defined as any student who is economically disadvantaged, has a disability, or is an English learner/former English learner)

*The rationale for selecting these student subgroups.*

The Franklin Public Schools proposes to allocate additional Chapter 70 funding towards supporting students with special needs to remain in their home district for specialized instruction. The Franklin Public Schools hosts five in-district programs for students with significant special needs. These in-district programs provide specialized academic instruction and

social-emotional support to students based on their primary disability in a specialized environment. Wherever possible, students receiving services are included in the general education classroom setting. These in-district programs place students into cohorts for similar programming while also

keeping the students within their home district. They prevent costly out-of-district tuitions while also enriching our entire school population as a more diverse and inclusive setting.

As students' special education needs become more complex and as the students receiving these specialized services matriculate into successive grades, Franklin Public Schools must seek to expand these services within the next three years. This includes the expansion of the NECC Partner program to upper elementary grades and the GOALS program to middle school. Additionally, all programs are expanding based on an increased number of students qualifying for these specialized services or because of the district's ability to return students to within the district from out-of-district settings.

We are committed to closing educational and opportunity gaps for our students with special needs. This includes providing them with the necessary instruction and support services to be ready for college, careers, and participation in civic life.

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

With additional funding provided t to Franklin Public Schools as a result of the Student Opportunity Act, we will expand services within our specialized programs.

***Focus Area 1:*** Increased personnel and services to support holistic student needs (C and/or D)

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|  | **FY21 budget item** | **Amount: enter number, do not use the $ character** | **Foundation Category** |
| **1** | **NECC** | **105000** | **Other Teaching Services** |
| **2** | **ABA Tutors for NECC** | **50000** | **Other Teaching Services** |
| **3** | **GOALS Teacher** | **50000** | **Classroom & Specialist Teachers** |
| **4** | **GOALS ESP** | **22500** | **Other Teaching Services** |

**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 Growth: ELA mean student growth percentile (SGP)
* Student Growth: Mathematics mean student growth percentile (SGP)
* Custom District Metric 1: Student Achievement on IEP goals

**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.*

The District remains committed to supporting students in subgroups most in need of support. In relation to students with special needs, the District fosters a productive and responsive relationship with the Special Education Parent Advisory Council (SEPAC). On an individual level, each family of students

with special needs or students being evaluated as such is considered a vital partner in the Team Process.

The District also utilizes Parent Communication Councils at each school and a district-wide Joint Parent Communication Council to support students. Additionally, School Councils are an important vehicle for communication and school governance among administrators, parents/guardians, and faculty/staff.

**Certifications**

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

Aspects of this plan were shared with the school community at three public meetings of the School Committee: February 25, 2020 in the Superintendent's Recommended Budget; March 10, 2020 where this SOA plan was a discussion item on the School Committee agenda; and January 12, 2021 when this SOA plan was discussed and subsequently voted upon. Furthermore, the Director of Student Services shared this SOA plan with the SEPAC in March, 2020 for input and guidance. The Superintendent shared this SOA plan with the Franklin Educators' Association leadership at their bimonthly consultation meeting on April 27, 2020 and January 5, 2021. Lastly, the Superintendent shared this SOA plan as part of a budget update to the Joint Parent Communication Council at their meeting on March 10, 2020.

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

Date of Approval: 01/12/2021