Student Opportunity Act Plan

Gill-Montague

# 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
* White students

*The rationale for selecting these student subgroups.*

Our 2 Biggest Gaps:

1. In statewide accountability ranking system, the subgroup of white students is quite low:

* 7th percentile at Sheffield,
* 8th percentile at GFMS, and 15th percentile at TFHS.

2. Students with Disabilities: On MCAS, the % of students meeting or exceeding expectations lags behind the all students category by over 20% in almost all grades, across all 3 subjects.

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

## Focus Area 1: Supporting educators to implement high-quality, aligned curriculum (E and F)

The injection of SOA funds will be help address these gaps as follows:

The hiring of an additional reading teacher will increase capacity to provide targeted instruction to IEP students and general ed. students.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **FY21 budget item** | **Amount: enter number, do not use the $ character** | **Foundation Category** |
| **1** | **Additional elementary reading teacher** | **60,000** | **Classroom & Specialist Teachers** |

## Focus Area 2: Increased personnel and services to support holistic student needs (C and/or D)

The hiring of an additional counselor will increase capacity to provide IEP and general ed. students with skills to be socially and emotionally prepared for school tasks.

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|  | **FY21 budget item** | **Amount (enter number, do not use the $ character)** | **Foundation Category** |
| **1** | **Adjustment counselor** | **60,000** | **Guidance and Psychological** |

Focus Area 3: Supporting educators to implement high-quality, aligned curriculum (E and F)

The hiring of 1st grade paraprofessionals will increase capacity to provide targeted reading and math instruction to small groups.

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|  | **FY21 budget item** | **Amount (enter number, do not use the $ character)** | **Foundation Category** |
| **1** | **paraprofessionals in 1st grade** | **120,000** | **Classroom & Specialist Teachers** |

Focus Area 4: Research-based early literacy programs in pre-kindergarten and early elementary grades (E, F, and G)

A new elementary literacy program will be introduced in Fall 2021 to replace one from 2005 which predates ELA standards of the modern era.

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|  | **FY21 budget item** | **Amount (enter number, do not use the $ character)** | **Foundation Category** |
| **1** | **New elementary literacy program** | **150,000** | **Instructional Materials, Equipment, and Technology** |

Focus Area 5: Increased staffing to expand student access to arts, athletics, and enrichment, and strategic scheduling to enable common planning time for teachers (B and D)

Additional secondary music and health/P.E. teachers will provide more students with enrichment and engaged learning experiences which were cut in the past.

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|  | **FY21 budget item** | **Amount (enter number, do not use the $ character)** | **Foundation Category** |
| **1** | **additional health and music teachers** | **120,000** | **Classroom & Specialist Teachers** |

**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)
* High School Completion: Annual dropout rate

**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 has just hired a family engagement coordinator to lead outreach efforts. A district equity committee with parent and community participants was recently initiated.

**Certifications**

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

The district included Student Opportunity Act information and initial recommendations in its school committee meetings, budget hearing, and posted these to its website in the winter of 2020.

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

Date of Approval: 03/10/2020