Student Opportunity Act Plan

Silver Lake

# 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
* Low income/economically disadvantaged students

*The rationale for selecting these student subgroups.*

At Silver Lake Regional Middle and Silver Lake Regional High School, staff and families have worked hard to help all students achieve at high levels. We have seen continuous improvement, but achievement gaps remain based on our analysis of the 2019 MCAS data. This data shows that two student subgroups have not achieved at the same levels as other Silver Lake students. At the end of middle school, the mean achievement of Silver Lake students with disabilities trails the mean achievement state-wide of students of disabilities. Our MCAS data also show that students who qualify for the Title 1 program are not meeting with the same success on ELA, Math, and the Science Technology/Engineering MCAS as other Silver Lake students.

Silver Lake staff are committed to closing these achievement and opportunity gaps, and it also will take the input and effort of Silver Lake families to make sure we are graduating all students with the skills and dispositions to be successful in life.

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

Silver Lake Regional School District's "Plan for Success" highlights our goals of strengthening engagement and increasing student achievement for all learners. We have several initiatives underway to accomplish these goals. Specifically, we will deepen our work in three areas to close gaps as swiftly as possible:

## Focus Area 1: Expanded access to career-technical education, including "After Dark" district-vocational partnerships and innovation pathways reflecting local labor market priorities (I)

As part of Silver Lake's FY 2021 budget, we seek to add a 1.0 FTE Allied Health position in the Career and Technical Education Dept (CTE). Half of this added Allied Health position would be funded through the Silver Lake budget and half through the federal Perkins Grant. Allied Health has proven to be an in-demand program due to the growth in the local and national health care sectors, and based on current enrollment in the program here at SLRHS. Adding the Allied Health position will enable the program to earn Chapter 74 certification from the state. Providing high quality CTE programming like Allied Health will increase opportunities for Silver Lake students and help to close opportunity and achievement gaps for our students.

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|  | **FY21 budget item** | **Amount: enter number, do not use the**  **$ character** | **Foundation Category** |
| **1** | **Allied Health position (.5 from SL Budget and .5 from Perkins Grant).** | **50000** | **Classroom & Specialist Teachers** |

## Focus Area 2: Supporting educators to implement high-quality, aligned curriculum (E and F)

During the school year 2019-2020, Silver Lake staff have started working with McTighe and Associates to ensure teachers are fully-equipped to design curriculum units using the "Understanding by Design" (UBD) framework. Over the course of this plan, we will expand the number of Silver Lake staff who are trained in this approach. We will also utilize funds to purchase curriculum materials and equipment aligned with the current MA curriculum frameworks. Units created in UBD format and aligned materials will ensure all Silver Lake students are exposed to engaging, high-quality learning experiences.

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|  | **FY21 budget item** | **Amount (enter number, do not use the $ character)** | **Foundation Category** |
| **1** | **UBD Professional Development** | **2500** | **Professional Development** |

## Focus Area 3: Inclusion/co-teaching for students with disabilities and English learners (D and/or E)

Research shows that all learners benefit when strong co-teaching is in place. Our plan is to provide on-going professional development over the course of this three-year plan to make sure co-teachers have access to high-quality training related to inclusion and co-teaching. With a focus on inclusion and co-teaching, Silver Lake staff will be able to better meet the needs of all students, including students with disabilities, students who qualify for Title 1 services, and English learners. Focusing on inclusion and co-teaching also will allow us to better meet the needs of students while they continue to learn alongside their peers, instead of being pulled out for remediation or re-teaching.

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|  | **FY21 budget item** | **Amount (enter number, do not use the $ character)** | **Foundation Category** |
| **1** | **Inclusion/Co-Teaching PD** | **3000** | **Professional Development** |

**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 Achievement: Mathematics achievement as measured by average scaled scores on MCAS
* Student Achievement: Science achievement as measured by average scaled scores (or CPI, depending on grade level) on MCAS
* High School Completion: Four-year cohort graduation 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.*

Silver Lake staff work hard to engage families, as we believe a strong connection among the school, families, and the regional district will provide the most support for students. This plan is about closing gaps and engaging all families, so it is important for us to make sure we find ways to forge strong connections to families of students with disabilities, students from low-income backgrounds, students of color, and students who are English learners.

To make sure we are engaging all families and listening to what supports they need, we will use provide several opportunities for Silver Lake families to provide input, including: the opportunity for public participation at the March Silver Lake School Committee meeting; Silver Lake Regional Middle School School Council meetings; Silver Lake Regional High School School Council meetings; and a "Meet and Greet" on March 18th with Superintendent Dr. Jill Proulx and Assistant Superintendent Ryan Lynch. For families not able to attend these sessions in person, we will also launch an online survey to all families to gather as many perspectives as possible about how we can support all of our learners. Notice of these opportunities will be shared with all families, and invitations and notices will be sent to families of English learners in the language spoken in their homes.

**Certifications**

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

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

Date of Approval: 03/12/2020