Student Opportunity Act Plan

South Middlesex Regional Vocational Technical

# 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.*

* First language not English students
* English learners and former English learners
* Low income/economically disadvantaged students
* 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.*

South Middlesex Regional Technical School District, also known as J.P. Keefe Tech, is committed to ensuring that all of our students achieve at high levels in school and are successfully prepared for life. Following a review of district data (MCAS, ACCESS) and conversations with community stakeholders, we would like to strengthen our focus on the Level 1 & Level 2 English Language Learners (ELLs) population.

Data (ACCESS/MCAS) to date suggests that our ELL students need more support with achieving language proficiency when designated as a long-term ELL, increasing achievement as measured by SGP and meeting local promotion requirements.

Additionally, our Level 1 & Level 2 students require a more intensive "push-in" ESL model. As part of our commitment to student success, Keefe Tech plans to shelter instruction utilizing a co-taught model for Level 1 & Level 2 ELLs during their academic programming time. ESL support will continue on the career and technical schedule with the assistance of the ESL teacher assistants.

Keefe Tech Student Population Information

* Grade 9-12 Enrollment- All students -785
* Level 1-5 ELL and Monitor 1-4 FELL-195
* Level 1 & 2 ELL- 38

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

Focus Area 1: Inclusion/co-teaching for students with disabilities and English learners (D and/or E)

South Middlesex Regional Technical School District plans to adopt and implement:

Inclusion/co-teaching for students with disabilities and English learners.

Currently, Keefe Tech maintains a comprehensive educational program for English Language Learners (ELLs). The current ELL Program provides a variety of services to its students and has two components: English as a Second Language (ESL) and Sheltered English Immersion (SEI).

A review of external and internal data supports the need for a third model, inclusive of a co-taught sheltered program for Level 1 & Level 2 ELL students. Level 1 & Level 2 students will be enrolled in the general curriculum with a certified content teacher as well as a certified ESL teacher.

It is important to note that the ELL population has nearly doubled within the last two years, requiring the additional staffing of (2) ESL teacher assistants and (1) ESL teacher. It is our goal to hire one additional ESL teacher for SY '20-'21, add new curriculum and technology to the co-taught program and increase our school-wide professional development series, focused on ELL proficiency and achievement gaps.

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|  | **FY21 budget item** | **Amount: enter number, do not use the $ character** | **Foundation Category** |
| **1** | **ESL Teacher** | **90,000.00** | **Classroom & Specialist Teachers** |
| **2** | **Classroom materials, equipment and technology to support the co-taught model** | **40,000.00** | **Instructional Materials, Equipment, and Technology** |
| **3** | **WIDA, CoTeaching and SEI Professional Development** | **50,000.00** | **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
* Student Growth: ELA mean student growth percentile (SGP)
* Student Growth: Mathematics mean student growth percentile (SGP)
* High School Completion: Four-year cohort graduation rate
* English Language Proficiency: Progress made by students towards attaining English proficiency (percentage of students meeting annual targets calculated to attain English proficiency in six years).
* Custom District Metric 1: End of Term Grading
* Custom District Metric 2: Bi-Annual Teacher Progress Reports
* Custom District Metric 3: Reports in accordance with the regulations of the LOOK ACT

**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.*

Keefe Tech values meaningful and comprehensive communication with all parents, guardians and community members. It is the goal of the district to continue to use the ELPAC parent group for input and feedback regarding programming for our ELL students. Subsequent ELPAC meeting agenda items will invite regular parent feedback and parent surveys will be developed and sent home bi-annually through the Keefe Language Acquisition Team (LAT). ESL staff will continue to communicate with home on a regular basis to monitor student progress and growth.

**Certifications**

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

Keefe Tech sought input from our recent Tiered Focus Monitoring Team visit, February 2020, from the district and school-wide administrative team, the Keefe Tech teaching faculty, the Keefe Tech ESL department, Keefe Tech Assessment Coordinator and ELPAC parent group.

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

Date of Approval: March 2, 2020