Student Opportunity Act Plan

Winchendon

# 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.*

* 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.*

Winchendon Public Schools has focused its Student Opportunity Plan on the ongoing work to "actualize the promise of education" for our students born out of the school and district's 2019 turnaround plan. Since then, the district and school have pursued three related goals:

1) increase the pathway opportunities for all students in grades 9-12;

2) revitalize, align and develop a stronger, 21st-century curriculum and course opportunities;

3) align core competencies and skills needed for students to be successful in post-secondary endeavors.

This work is a top priority and begins the first day of Grade 9 for our staff and students in a collective effort to develop a college-bound culture for all.

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

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## Focus Area 1: Early College programs focused primarily on students under-represented in higher education (I)

Launch the implementation of the Murdock Future Scholars Summer Program.

Winchendon Public Schools and Murdock High School recognize the importance of community and relationship building in order to ensure student success as children matriculate from middle to high school. With the distinct challenge of filling in both academic and social-emotional gaps created by the pandemic, we want to build upon our relationship with WSU in order to create a residential summer program that showcases not only the academic priorities of the high school but also to showcase the unique opportunities that living on a college campus provides. The summer program (5-weeks, 5 days a week) will focus on the following for all incoming 9th-grade students:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **FY21 budget item** | **Amount: enter number, do not use the $ character** | **Foundation Category** |
| **1** |  | **30 000** | **Other** |
| **2** |  | **10000** | **Classroom & Specialist Teachers** |
| **3** |  | **10000** | **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: 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
* Custom District Metric 1: Advanced Course Work

**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.*

Winchendon Public Schools recognizes that family engagement is an essential element to our eventual success, especially in terms of engaging those families who have been traditionally more challenging to reach. This is inclusive of:

* Continuation of the use of the Student Support Team to identify, triage, and provide outreach to students at risk and their families.
* Continuation of the use of our building-based Instructional leadership team (ILT) to develop measures to meet families where they are at in order to maximize engagement
* Continuation of the stakeholder engagement through listening session via Zoom during the afternoon and evening
* Continuation of the use of social media platforms to provide two-way communication not only by district leadership but also by students involved in the Portrait of a Graduate process
* Continuation of the use of Parent Square by staff and administration to calendar and communicate with families

**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: 02/04/2021