Student Opportunity Plans Evidence-Based Program Examples Identified by DESE

The Department of Elementary & Secondary Education (DESE) has identified 17 examples of high-quality, evidence-based programs for districts to consider including in their Student Opportunity Plans. The program examples below are organized into four domains that reflect the core work of districts. Each example below is pre-aligned to one or more of the program categories outlined in the language of the Student Opportunity Act (SOA), which are noted in parentheses after each example.¹ These 17 program examples are presented visually on the next page and described in this document, along with links to the supporting evidence base. Districts could use these examples to support internal planning and as part of stakeholder engagement processes.

The commissioner is encouraging the adoption of Priority Programs (in bold below) and will likely offer multiplier funds to districts with particularly strong plans in these areas. We hope to make funds available via competitive grants by realigning grants within DESE. Please note that to receive multiplier funds for a pre-K program, districts must also implement a research-based early literacy program.

Enhanced Core Instruction

- 1. Expanded access to full-day, high-quality pre-kindergarten for 4-year-olds, including potential collaboration with other local providers (SOA categories D, F, and G)
- 2. Research-based early literacy programs in pre-kindergarten and early elementary grades (E, F, and G)
- 3. Early College programs focused primarily on students under-represented in higher education (I)
- 4. Supporting educators to implement high-quality, aligned curriculum (E and F)
- 5. Expanded access to career-technical education, including "After Dark" district-vocational partnerships and innovation pathways reflecting local labor market priorities (I)

Targeted Student Supports

- 6. Increased personnel and services to support holistic student needs (C and D)
- 7. Inclusion/co-teaching for students with disabilities and English learners (D and E)
- 8. Acceleration Academies and/or summer learning to support skill development and accelerate advanced learners (A and E)
- 9. Dropout prevention and recovery programs (I)

Talent Development

- 10. Diversifying the educator/administrator workforce through recruitment and retention (D and H)
- 11. Leadership pipeline development programs for schools (D and E)
- 12. Increased staffing to expand student access to arts, athletics, and enrichment, and strategic scheduling to enable common planning time for teachers (B and D)
- 13. Strategies to recruit and retain educators/administrators in hard-to-staff schools and positions (D)

Conditions for Student Success

- 14. Community partnerships for in-school enrichment and wraparound services (C)
- 15. Parent-teacher home visiting programs (E)
- 16. Labor-management partnerships to improve student performance (E)
- 17. Facilities improvements to create healthy and safe school environments (J)

¹A) Expanded learning time in the form of a longer school day or year; B) Increased opportunity for common planning time for teachers; C) Social services to support students' social-emotional and physical health; D) Hiring school personnel that best support improved student performance; E) Increased or improved professional development; F) Purchase of curriculum materials and equipment that are aligned with the statewide curriculum frameworks; G) Expanded early education and pre-kindergarten programming within the district in consultation or in partnership with community based organizations; H) Diversifying the educator and administrator workforce; I) Developing additional pathways to strengthen college and career readiness; J) Any other program determined to be evidence-based by the commissioner.