
PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF BROOKLINE

Student Opportunity Act
July 7, 2020 -- School Committee

Objectives

- Provide School Committee with additional details about the Student Opportunity Act Plan submitted to the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) on June 15, 2020.

Background

- SOA allocates a percentage of each district's Ch 70 funding to addressing achievement gaps in all of our subgroups.
- All MA public school districts are required to submit three-year, evidence-based plans aimed at closing persistent disparities in achievement among student subgroups.
- District's expected to receive minimal or no increases in Ch 70 aid, DESE recommends the district document existing programs or supports targeted to closing the achievement gap.
 - Brookline is expected to allocate **\$229,400** from Ch 70 funding toward our SOA plan.

PSB Focus

- Based on the advice from the state and our recent program review of PK-8 Mathematics, we are focusing on eliminating gaps in our Mathematics achievement among student subgroups.

Two focus areas:

1. Enhanced core instruction in PK-8 Mathematics
2. Support educators to implement high-quality, aligned curriculum
 - a. Increased and improved professional development
 - b. Curriculum materials and equipment that are aligned with statement curriculum frameworks

Enhanced Core Instruction

Evidence based programming to address the achievement gap:

1. The district has now adopted the *Illustrative Mathematics* (IM) curriculum for grades 6-8. Driven by student discourse, IM Certified™ curricula are rich, engaging core programs built around focus, coherence, and rigor. The curricula are trusted, expert-authored materials developed to equip all students to thrive in mathematics.
2. The district will also begin the adoption of the *Investigations 3* math curriculum in the 2020-2021 school year. *Investigations 3* is a focused, coherent, and rigorous K-5 mathematics curriculum. Fully aligned to the content and practice standards of the Common Core State Standards (CCSS), deep and careful attention is paid to mathematics content and to student thinking and understanding. Making sense of mathematics is the heart of the work, for students and teachers.

Support for Educators

- Professional Development Menu (teachers, principals and paraprofessionals)
 - Developing Mathematical Ideas (DMI)
 - Cultural Proficiency Training
 - MSAN Equity Project in Math
 - TERC virtual training and modules
- Math Coaches assist teachers with preparation and implementation of new curriculum
- Math Coaches and Data Team will help teachers identify students in need of support base on regular formal and informal assessments required in new curriculum (progress monitoring)

PSB Beliefs

- IF...
 - Access to grade level or above math content is available to all students
 - We strengthen Tier 1 instruction
 - Students receive immediate in-class intervention
 - Staff progress monitor with curriculum specific assessments
- THEN...
 - We will begin to close the achievement gap

Measuring SOA Plan Success

- MCAS Math: Percent of students Meeting/Exceeding Expectations (positive change from previous year)
- MCAS Math: Student growth percentile (positive change from previous year)
- District: Decrease number/percent of students receiving math intervention outside of the classroom (beginning to end of year)
- District: Number/percent of students “on grade level” in the beginning of year math assessment (beginning of year to beginning of year)

SOA Plan for PSB: Proposed Budget

Over 3 years:

Amount	Description
\$123,000	Materials and resources for grades K-5 including teacher curriculum packages, student workbooks, assessments, and subscriptions to digital courseware for teachers and students
\$36,000	Curriculum Implementation courses and workshops for K-5 teachers and ongoing monthly professional development support for Math Specialists supporting teacher teams
\$36,000	Student supplies and materials to support the implementation of new curriculum K-8 (math manipulatives, card packs)
\$35,000	Books, materials and online access for grades 6-8
\$230,000	Total



Questions?