Student Opportunity Act Plan

East Bridgewater

# 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
* Students with disabilities
* 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)
* African American/Black students
* Hispanic or Latinx students

*The rationale for selecting these student subgroups.*

As noted in our Mission Statement, The East Bridgewater Public School District, in partnership with the community, continues to provide an academically challenging, safe, and supportive learning environment that promotes the pursuit of excellence for all. Our Guiding Beliefs, aligned with our Mission Statement, supports all students achieving success while creating a safe, tolerant, supportive, organized, and equitable learning environment. Based on the review of East Bridgewater Public Schools data, as well as MCAS, our English Learners (EL), Economically Disadvantaged (ED), and Students with Disabilities (SWD) are not demonstrating the same level of achievement as their peers. During the past five years, the district has experienced a significant increase in the number of students in the subgroups EL (predominantly Hispanic/Latino), ED, and SWD. The English Learner student population for the district is .8%, with a significant number of English Language Learners entering and performing at Level 1, based on the WIDA Screener and ACCESS results. This data indicates a high level of need and low level of proficiency. The East Bridgewater Public Schools subgroup of Economically Disadvantaged is 18.1%. The number of students identified as Students with Disabilities are 19.1%. Students that are grouped by High need that are Economically Disadvantaged, ELL, and Students with IEPs are 32.9% and is higher than similar like districts. EBPS is committed to allocating resources and working to close achievement gaps for these identified subgroups.

**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)

The EBPS has implemented strategies that focus on meeting the varied needs of our population of English Leaners (EL), Economically Disadvantaged (ED), and Students with Disabilities (SWD). We will continue to deepen our work in improving equitable access to education for EL, ED, and SWD students in the following ways. The district has invested in Panorama for Education as a platform to track achievement gaps in learning and social and emotional well-being.

1. English Learners. The East Bridgewater Public Schools invested in an additional .5 EL position for the beginning of the 2019-2020 school year to support the diverse needs of our EL population (D). This additional position will allow us to meet Massachusetts' guidelines for the amount of service-time that students require based on their English proficiency level. Additionally, we will be able to provide more consultation to general educators who work with English Learners so that our EL students can be better supported in general education classrooms.

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|  | **FY21 budget item** | **Amount: enter number, do not use the $ character** | **Foundation Category** |
| **1** | **EL Teachers 1.5** | **89,250** | **Classroom & Specialist Teachers** |
| **2** | **1.5** | **18,118** | **Employee Benefits/Fixed Charges** |
| **3** | **Panorama** | **7,762.50** | **Classroom & Specialist Teachers** |
| **4** | **Hot Spots (ELL )** | **500.00** | **Instructional Materials, Equipment, and Technology** |
| **5** | **Board maker** | **7,800.26** |  |
| **6** | **ELL Supplies** | **705.00** |  |

## Focus Area 2: Inclusion/co-teaching for students with disabilities and English learners (D and/or E)

Increase in Co-taught classrooms for Students with Disabilities.

From 2017-2020 the East Bridgewater Public Schools supported co-teaching in grades 3-6. In 2021, we will have expanded co-teaching to all grade 3 through grade 6. Increasing co-taught classrooms has allowed our SWD to receive more individualized support in their general education classrooms leading to more academic progress and higher academic achievement. At the high school level, SWD are being supported in general education classes with Instructional Support Assistants to improve their academic achievement and progress and reduce replacement classes. The addition of co-taught classrooms requires additional professional development for general education, special education, and EL teachers in Universal Design for Learning and differentiated instruction. We will be increasing our common planning time for teachers in all buildings to allow for collaborative planning and reflection of professional development. (B and E).

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|  | **FY21 budget item** | **Amount (enter number, do not use the $ character)** | **Foundation Category** |
| **1** | **Classroom-Grade 5** | **55,000** | **Classroom & Specialist Teachers** |
| **2** | **Grade 3-Special Education** | **55,000** | **Classroom & Specialist Teachers** |
| **3** | **Adjustment Counselor(3-6)** | **98,5000** | **Instructional Materials, Equipment, and Technology** |

## Focus Area 3: Supporting educators to implement high-quality, aligned curriculum

Purchase of new MA Framework aligned materials/ support district curriculum writing.

Updating of curriculum and instruction within the district is ongoing. We began a six (6) year curriculum cycle review in 2016. Six content areas (science, math, Guidance, social studies/language, ELA & Arts) have been identified for annual focus.

Utilizing a culturally responsive curriculum scorecard, each content area will go through a multiyear review process which includes a needs assessment, pilot and four (4) years of implementation. Each year the district is committing 50,000 - 200,000 (depending on the content area) to update curriculum resources, materials, and training (F). In order to support equitable access for all students, the East Bridgewater Public Schools is procuring professional development from Universal Design for Learning (UDL) will be training all teachers, grades PreK-, including general education, special education, and EL teachers, in the state model of Inclusive Practices with Katie Novak and Kristan Rodriguez. This is a three (3) year commitment. In addition, we will continue to procure supplemental supports in the areas of phonics and assessments such Telian, MAP, DDIBELs, iReady Benchmark Assessment System (BAS) to reach all early elementary students (F). All teachers, inclusive of general education, special education, and EL teachers are accessing professional development in these areas and the plan is to continue through the next two (2) years. In the area of Mathematics, we have begun the process of reviewing and using high quality math resources READY CLASSROOM Mathematics for all grades to complement the new MA Math Framework and to scaffold into secondary math programs. Open resources will be piloted through the curriculum facilitator and the district curriculum councils. Resources are being vetted, purchased and utilized in order to reach the diverse needs of all students, including EL, ED, and SWD populations.

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|  | **FY21 budget item** | **Amount (enter number, do not use the $ character)** | **Foundation Category** |
| **1** | **Curriculum-IREADY math/pd (elem, middle and High)** | **24,641** | **Instructional Materials, Equipment, and Technology** |
| **2** | **IXL Grade 5-8 Updgrade-math****/ela/science** | **11,909** | **Instructional Materials, Equipment, and Technology** |
| **3** | **NWEA MAP** | **10,112** | **Instructional Materials, Equipment, and Technology** |
| **4** | **SMART PD** | **3,287** | **Professional Development** |
| **5** | **Equity TRAINING** | **4,170** | **Professional Development** |
| **6** | **Katie Novak/UDL/Teachers 21/PD** | **20,750** | **Professional Development** |

## Focus Area 4: Increased personnel and services to support holistic student needs

Social services to support students' social-emotional and physical health.

The East Bridgewater Public Schools has undertaken many initiatives to better support students' social and emotional development. In order to offer direct services counseling and coaching to individual and small groups of students, the district will introduce a new School Adjustment Counselor position at the intermediate level grades 3 – 6 SY 21. To offer additional direct services, The East Bridgewater Public Schools contracted with the North River Collaborative for Social Work Interns who work directly with struggling students, partner with teachers for whole group instruction, and work with families to connect them to necessary services in the community. The East Bridgewater Public Schools has also committed to Social Thinking training and Botvin Life Skills training and curriculum, so that our staff can offer proactive instruction on self-awareness, self- management, social awareness, social problem solving, and responsible decision-making. The East Bridgewater Public Schools has provided ongoing professional development to staff on social-emotional learning and managing emotional challenges in the classroom (C).

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|  | **FY21 budget item** | **Amount (enter number, do not use the $ character)** | **Foundation Category** |
| **1** | **Curriculum** |  | **Instructional Materials, Equipment, and Technology** |
| **2** | **Professional Development-Botvin Life Skills training** | **15,000** | **Professional Development** |
| **3** | **3 Adjustment Counselor(No. River Collab)** | **25,250** | **Guidance and Psychological** |
| **4** | **Central School beahvior specialist** | **32,252** | **Guidance and Psychological** |

## Focus Area 5: Supporting educators to implement high-quality, aligned curriculum (E and F)

Districtwide Classroom teachers.

The East Bridgewater Public Schools is committed to providing the lowest class-size, district wide. Due to increases in enrollment of students with special needs, English Language Learners, low socioeconomic need students. EBPS class sizes at the lowest elementary grades K-6 are stabilized avg. 23 students per classroom. We will hire school personnel to support holistic student needs (Targeted Student Supports) (D).

This will allow the district to have common planning time for curriculum and academic support for teachers as well as supporting the student social needs.

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|  | **FY21 budget item** | **Amount (enter number, do not use the $ character)** | **Foundation Category** |
| **1** | **Part time reading math specialist** | **38,000** | **Classroom & Specialist Teachers** |

## Focus Area 6: Increased personnel and services to support holistic student needs (C and/or D)

Elementary Reading Specialist

The East Bridgewater Public Schools is committed to research-based early literacy in the early elementary grades. As such, the district will continue to support and elementary reading specialist to focus on delivering high-quality instruction and intervention at the elementary level.

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|  | **FY21 budget item** | **Amount (enter number, do not use the $ character)** | **Foundation Category** |
| **1** | **Part time reading math specialist** | **38,000** | **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: 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)
* 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: District Created Accessibility Survey

**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.*

In the East Bridgewater Public Schools, we believe that family engagement is essential in ensuring the success of all students. Given the focus of student subgroups, it is important to engage all families. The following programs will be continued for subsequent years with continued emphasis for improving student involvement and engagement:

ESL Family Night (1 per year); ELPAC (scheduled monthly); EL After School Tutoring; EL Summer Camp (1 week over the summer); EL Language Buddies (Once a week); EL Suitcase Stories to Build Bridges with the Community (1 workshop, 1 performance); SEPAC (quarterly); Title I Family Nights (3 per year); Family Literacy Night (grades K-2); Establishing parent book club on diversity, equity and race; Demystifying Standardized Testing Family Night (grades 3 and 4); Curriculum Fun Fair Family Night; Collaboration with the East Bridgewater Community Coalition for Change to bring training and presentation to the families and community at large.

Efforts will be made across the district to accommodate different family schedules by scheduling meetings and events during different times of the day, for example morning, afternoons and evenings.

**Certifications**

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

* School Committee and subgroups
* faculty governing boards
* administrators
* EB Coalition for Change
* Central office Administration**.**

Town administration had a seat at the table.

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

Date of Approval: 01/26/21