Student Opportunity Act Plan

Old Rochester

# 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.*

* 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.*

The 2023 Vision for Learning at Old Rochester Regional School District is to provide all students with 21st Century Skills, strengthened social and emotional competencies, and a variety of learning experiences that engage the students as global citizens.

HS: In the 2019 DESE Official Accountability Report Old Rochester Regional High School (ORRHS) saw a decline in both the annual dropout rate and chronic absenteeism amongst the high needs sub-group. The dropout rate amongst high needs students increased by 1.9% from 2017 to 2018. The attendance rate amongst high needs students increased by 9.1% from 2018 to 2019.

JHS: In the 2019 DESE Official Accountability Report Old Rochester Regional Junior High School (ORRJHS) earned 82% of the possible points for all students. This is a 42% increase from 2018. This increase is in stark contrast to our numbers for our economically disadvantaged students. Economically disadvantaged students dropped from 67% of the possible points in 2018 to 37% in 2019. Achievement, growth, and chronic absenteeism improved for all students. Economically disadvantaged students decreased in achievement, maintained in growth, and decreased in chronic absenteeism. The economically disadvantaged subgroup is the ORRJHS focus subgroup to close the academic and absenteeism gaps.

ORRJHS surveys the student body bi-annually using the Panorama SEL Survey. The student engagement category measure is an area for improvement. The free and reduced lunch sub- groups are reported to be 4.5% lower than the general population in student engagement.

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

## Focus Area 1: Expanded access to career-technical education, including "After Dark" district-vocational partnerships and innovation pathways reflecting local labor market priorities (I)

In FY21, ORRHS will implement a "Winter School" similar to the traditional "Summer School" for credit recovery and dropout prevention. Students who are credit deficient and not on track to graduate will have the ability to take six-week courses in the winter, after school hours, through an online platform known Gradpoint that is aligned to the Massachusetts frameworks. The high needs subgroup will be targeted for this program in an effort to improve our annual dropout rate and chronic absenteeism. The staff will be paid in stipends and will include a special education teacher, a regular education teacher, a paraprofessional, and a social worker. There are no expected changes for the following two years.

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|  | **FY21 budget item** | **Amount: enter number, do not use the $ character** | **Foundation Category** |
| **1** | **Special Education Staff** | **3,500** | **Classroom & Specialist Teachers** |
| **2** | **Teacher Staff** | **3,500** | **Classroom & Specialist Teachers** |
| **3** | **Social Worker Staff** | **3,500** | **Guidance and Psychological** |
| **4** | **Paraprofessional Support** | **3,500** | **Pupil Services** |
| **5** | **Gradpoint Online Licenses** | **746.85** | **Instructional Materials, Equipment, and Technology** |

## Focus Area 2: Supporting educators to implement high-quality, aligned curriculum (E and F)

Seventy-one percent of the ORRJHS staff is trained in Responsive Classroom. ORRJHS will continue to increase the number of Responsive Classroom trained teachers and professional staff to include our social worker and guidance counselors. The Responsive Classroom approach to teaching is research based and proven to improve the implementation of curriculum.

ORRJHS will continue to update, improve, and document curriculum in Atlas Rubicon. Staff will continue to receive professional development on 21st Century Skills and Project Based Learning. Documentation exercises will include verifying and adjusting as needed to ensure alignment with the state frameworks, and vertical alignment. Staff will embed the curriculum with 21st century skills and Problem Based Learning activities.

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|  | **FY21 budget item** | **Amount (enter number, do not use the $ character)** | **Foundation Category** |
| **1** | **Responsive Classroom Training** | **3,000** | **Professional Development** |
| **2** | **Curriculum Teacher Leaders** | **1,500** | **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.*

* High School Completion: Four-year cohort graduation rate
* High School Completion: Annual dropout rate
* Custom District Metric 1: Panorama Student Engagement Survey Data

**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.*

HS: ORRHS recognizes the role family engagement plays in ensuring positive outcomes for all students; outcomes that include graduation rate and chronic absenteeism. ORRHS has implemented Panorama Family-School Relationships Survey. ORRHS has also surveyed parents for input on professional development plans.

JHS: ORRJHS will implement the Panorama Family-School Relationships Survey. The results will be used to identify areas for improvement and develop plans to implement.

**Certifications**

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

* Clinical Team
* School Councils
* Faculty
* Leadership Council

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

Date of Approval: 01/20/2021