

BERKELEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

TO: BSEP Planning & Oversight Committee
FROM: Debbi D'Angelo, Director, Berkeley Evaluation and Assessment,
Pasquale Scuderi, Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services
DATE: May 10, 2016
SUBJECT: Recommendation for Expenditures of Funds from the Berkeley
Public Schools Educational Excellence Act of 2006 for Program
Evaluation in 2016-17

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

In compliance with The Berkeley Public Schools Educational Excellence Act of 2006 (BSEP/Measure A), nine percent (9%) of the available revenues of the Measure are allocated to three purposes: Professional Development, Educational Program Evaluation, and Technology in schools. Educational Program Evaluation currently receives a bit less than a third (2.52%) of the allocation.

The following recommendation is for the allocation of funds for the Purpose of Professional Development in accordance with BSEP Measure A, Section 3C: ...assessing the effectiveness of the District's educational programs for improving student achievement;

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

Mission Statement

As the District implements numerous educational programs designed to improve student achievement, staff must be able to assess the effectiveness of these programs in meeting their goals. Equity-driven and data-driven decision-making is critical to student success, and therefore, the District established the Berkeley Research, Evaluation, and Assessment (BREA) office in 2007 to use data to achieve these program objectives:

EXCELLENCE:

BREA works to improve individual teachers' instruction and individual students' learning, as well as the ability of School Governance Councils to make decisions about the effective use of site resources to provide excellent programs for all students.

EQUITY:

BREA's evaluations improve the ability of the School Board, staff and the public to make informed decisions about the effectiveness of instructional programs in order to maximize the use of scarce resources to meet the needs of our most underserved students. BREA teams with the Professional Development staff to support the development of data systems that include:

Coordination of School Teams (COS)/RTI ², Positive Behavior and Intervention Systems (PBIS), Family Engagement and Cultural Competency, 2020 Vision Indicators, English Learner Master Plan targets and WASC goals.

ENGAGEMENT:

BREA develops and maintains a central data warehouse to provide real-time web-based student information to engage staff members with district and state mandated assessments which may be drillable to the site, classroom, case-management and student level to identify students who should be engaged through the intervention model to access the curriculum at each level. In addition, BREA works with the Office of Family Engagement and Equity in their efforts to document family and student engagement efforts.

These PLC Inquiry sessions will guide sites to look at their achievement gaps and use the most current data to reflect upon teaching and learning. The sessions will focus the staff as a Professional Learning Community to ask these questions:

- a. What is it we want ALL students to know? (Plan)
- b. What instructional strategies target the needs and abilities within the classroom? What interventions are needed? (Teach)
- c. How will we know if students have learned it? (Assess)
- d. How will we respond when students experience difficulty in learning? How will we respond when students already know it? (Reflect)

Educational Program Evaluation Staff

\$529,300

Director - 1.0 FTE, Certificated

Teacher on Special Assignment – .8 FTE (out of 1.0 FTE)

Teacher on Special Assignment – .3 FTE (out of .7 FTE)

Teacher on Special Assignment – .4 FTE

Teacher on Special Assignment – .2 FTE (.8 FTE in classroom)

Data Technician - 1.0 FTE

Administrative Staff - .50 FTE (out of 1.0 FTE)

Director of Research Evaluation and Assessment

1.0 FTE

The Director of Research, Evaluation and Assessment designs, implements and oversees all aspects of the evaluation and assessment activities related to student achievement and program effectiveness, including research and evaluation methodologies, instruments, data collection, data warehouse/assessment system/dashboard design and implementation, data integrity processes, and statistical analysis and interpretation. The Director works with principals, teachers, School Governance Councils, District Office staff, the School Board, LCAP Committees, the 2020 Vision Design Team and Local Colleges to interpret student data and improve student learning. The Director serves as a liaison between the Technology Department and Educational Services, interpreting the needs of Curriculum and Instruction for the programming and system software, and improving data integrity, development and accessibility for teachers. The Director works with the Coordinator of Professional Development to provide training to lead teachers and professional developers on the development of new CCSS local and state assessments and for K-5 teachers and families, the new Elementary CCSS Report Card. The Director prepares and provides 40-50 presentations annually to different stakeholder groups including the Board, City of Berkeley, the LCAP Parent Advisory Groups, the Educator Advisory Group, West Ed, Education Source,

be used to pay a daily stipend to lead teachers at each site who will then train the teachers at their school.

Classified Hourly (Student Helpers) \$5,000

Student helpers and Interns from the Cal in Local Government grant program will be used to provide support for the BREA department.

Illuminator Teacher Leader Stipend \$18,500

In order to assure full implementation of Illuminate , funds will be used to pay one-half of an annual stipend to one lead teacher at each site who will serve as “Illuminators” for the first half of the year and Site Local and State Assessment Teacher Leaders the second half of the year (paid for by the General Fund Testing Budget). The eleven Elementary Illuminators will attend a monthly meeting, be trained on the new Elementary Report Card, and then coach others at their site on how to report progress and use local and formative assessments in Illuminate and tie them to the Elementary Report Card. The six middle and high school illuminators would focus on the new Common Core State Standards local assessments, and all Teacher Leaders will help with implementation of the new state-mandated Smarter Balanced Assessment (this half of the funding would come from the General Fund Testing Budget).

Contracted Services

Illuminate, Key-Data Systems, Survey Monkey \$55,000

The Evaluation and Assessment Office maintains the central repository for all student assessment information in the District. Currently, these data are stored by Illuminate software, and accessed through a web interface by instructional staff. BREA has been the vehicle for creating and scanning answer sheets for district assessments as well as analyzing both state and district assessment data. Key-Data Systems provides test items that are specifically developed to measure student mastery of California Common Core standards. As a formative assessment, the questions are intended to help educators improve instruction by revealing common student misconceptions. Every assessment includes a Teacher Rationale document that explains student errors. Key-Data Systems is a partner with Illuminate and will serve to enhance the Item Bank particularly because it is aligned to the new Core Common State Standards. In addition, both the World Language and Science departments at BHS have committed to developing a greater number of common assessments using Key-Data Systems.

Finally, the BREA department oversees the District’s subscription to Survey Monkey, an online survey tool used by School Governance Councils and other District offices to collect survey data. Survey Monkey will also serve as the District “WE CARE” survey tool for analysis of District Family Engagement and Parent Involvement as well as BFT’s use of data to inform site performance.

Professional Development for BREa Staff
Professional developm

\$8,000