

ITEM FOR ACTION AT A FUTURE MEETING**EARLY LITERACY SUCCESS PLAN & GRANT APPLICATION****SUMMARY**

Oregon's new Early Literacy Success Initiative provides funding targeted to help school districts improve early literacy. The district's plan for the grant funds will be considered for approval in the next meeting.

BACKGROUND

The Oregon Legislature passed House Bill 3198 in June 2023, creating the Early Literacy Success Initiative with four programs: Early Literacy Success Tribal Grants, Early Literacy Success Community Grants, Early Literacy Success School District Grants, and Birth Through Five Literacy Plan. The purpose of the initiative is to: (1) Increase early literacy for children from birth to grade three; (2) Reduce literacy academic disparities for student groups that have historically experienced academic disparities; (3) Increase support to parents and guardians to enable them to be partners in the development of their children's literacy skills and knowledge; and (4) Increase access to early literacy learning through support that is research-aligned, culturally responsive, student-centered and family-centered.

Oregon school districts may apply for Early Literacy Success Grant funding for the 2023-2025 biennium between December 1, 2023 and January 8, 2024. Funding is based upon ADMw for district enrollment in grades K-5. Funding for Beaverton is approximately \$2.84 million in the first year and \$2.95 million in the second year, and has a required 25% match of funds focused on advancing literacy.

The district is prepared to submit an application during the upcoming submission period that focuses the available grant funds to four key areas allowed as part of the grant, and uses braided funding from the Student Investment Account for the fifth allowed key area to fulfill the required 25% match:

- Adoption and implementation of literacy instructional materials that align with the Oregon Literacy Framework
- Professional development in research-aligned literacy strategies for teachers and administrators in grades K-3
- Summer programming that uses research aligned literacy strategies for students in grades K-3
- High-dosage tutoring that integrates reading and writing
- Matching funds: Literacy specialists, coaches or interventionists to support implementation

A study session preceding the business meeting is slated for the board to receive and discuss information about the legislation, the grant program and process, and the district's proposed use of the grant funds.

RECOMMENDATION

The district's plan for the Early Literacy Success Grant will be considered for approval in the board's business meeting on December 12.

Belong. Believe. Achieve.