



Galveston ISD Elementary Plan for Closing Learning Gaps 2021-2023

This plan is the collaborative work of the elementary principals, their leadership teams and the Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction.

The Need:

During the 2020 – 2021 school year, approximately 500+ elementary students fell behind in their academic work due to COVID 19. Many of these students struggled with remote learning. Some experienced multiple quarantines while others did not participate in learning on a consistent basis. In an effort to mitigate the learning loss, the elementary campuses are requesting permission to implement a rigorous campus intervention program beginning August 23, 2021 through June 1, 2023.

Overview of Program:

Burnet, Morgan, Oppe, Parker, and Rosenberg will **each** have **an intervention program for grades K, 1, and 2** comprised of **no more than 15 students in each intervention class known as “REACH”**. A grade level experienced teacher will teach the “REACH” class. These campuses will hire a Content Specialist (one per grade level in kinder, 1st, and 2nd and one for 3rd and 4th combined) to work with data and their respective grade level students. This Content Specialist will be in addition to title tutors/reading coaches some campuses have. **Crenshaw** will hire one Content Specialist to work with identified students. For two years, the remaining classrooms will have a limit of 20 students per class. Limiting the numbers of students per classroom will afford teachers more opportunities to meet students’ individual needs and to better plan instructional groups.

Rationale:

The dollars that would be spent to create a new campus to meet the students’ needs would be better spent by giving the campuses additional resources to serve those students. The campuses would have additional flexibility to leverage “Specials” and other academic programs to enrich as well as remediate or accelerate students. In addition, by having the individual programs on each of the campuses, the campuses will



take more ownership in the progress of the students. Ultimately, the students impact their accountability and the principals want to ensure that the students are receiving quality instruction and quality interventions.

The Plan:

Each campus will identify 15 kindergarten students, 15 first grade students, 15-second grade, 15 third grade students, and 15 fourth grade students who are to participate in the “REACH” class. Campuses will hire four Content Specialists (one for K, one for 1, one for 2, and one for 3rd and 4th grade combined) who will coordinate efforts with other classroom teachers at their grade level and support the needs of the grade level students. **Crenshaw** will be able to hire one Content Specialist.

Every grade level teacher serving as the “REACH” instructor will be trained on LLI for grades K, 1 and 2.

The goal of “REACH” will be to serve students who are in danger of being retained. Special Education students will not participate in this program, but will be served through the Special Education program. Students in “REACH” will be limited to only 2 discipline infractions per year. “REACH” student’s parents will sign an agreement that they will strive to meet no more than 10 absences per year for their child.

Projected Costs:

- 4 content specialist per campus X 5 campuses = 20 coaches +1 (Crenshaw)
- 21 content specialist X \$60,000 = **\$1,260,000** or \$240,000 extra per campus + \$60,000 for Crenshaw
- \$1,260,000 X 2 years = **\$2,520,000** or \$480,000 per campus for two years (staffing) + \$120,000 for Crenshaw for two years
- LLI Kits for K, 1, 2 per campus at \$3500 X 15 = **\$52,500** (one-time purchase)
- STEMscopes Math \$45,000 (annual cost) X 2 years = **\$90,000**

Total projected cost for 2 years = \$2,662,500

*Proposed plan saves the cost of staffing with administration, counselor, nurse, custodial, and Food Service

Typical cost for operating one elementary building annually = \$3,600,000