

Student Success Act Update and What it Means for MCS

February 11, 2020

During the 2019 session, the Oregon Legislature made a significant investment in resources for K-12 education by passing the Student Success Act (SSA). When fully implemented, the SSA is expected to invest \$2 billion in Oregon education every two years; a \$1 billion investment in early learning and K-12 education each year. Of those funds, \$200 million will go into the State School Fund with the remaining distributed into three accounts: the Early Learning Account, the Student Investment Account and the Statewide Education Initiatives Account.

Student Investment Account funding could mean an additional \$189,000+ in income for MCS this upcoming school year.

At the heart of the SSA is a commitment to improving access and opportunities for students who have been historically underserved. In addition, SSA funds have to be dedicated to certain education programs. Some of the allowable uses include:

- Expand Instructional Time
- Student Health and Safety
- Social Emotional Learning and Trauma Informed Practices
- Mental and Behavioral Health
- Facility Improvements
- Early Literacy
- Middle School Programs and Supports
- Broadening Curricular Options

I would like to thank everyone who participated in our Public Forum, Online Surveys and interviews. Your input has provided us the information that we needed to make informed choices in writing our Student Investment Account application. After careful study of the information provided us, we discovered three central themes about what our application should include.

Those themes are as follows:

1. Respondents felt strongly that student Reading and Math achievement must improve.
2. Respondents felt strongly that social/emotional/behavioral support is much needed (A School Counselor in some manner).
3. Exploratory offerings are badly needed, especially for Middle School Students, in Art, Music, and other such areas.

When we write our Student Investment Account application the following areas will be addressed in some manner:

1. Provide Reading and Math support for early grades students (Grades K-3).
2. Provide student counseling support.
3. Provide exploratory opportunities in Art, Music, and other like areas, for students.

The next step in the process is for the MCS School Board to approve the Student Investment Account application at their March meeting. The application will include a detailed plan of how funds will be spent and how student success will be measured in the identified areas.

After the MCS School Board approves the application, it will be submitted to our Sponsoring School District (D21) to be incorporated in their grant application to the Oregon Department of Education.

I will provide more information after we have drafted our Student Investment Account application.

Sincerely,

Jay Kosik

Executive Director, Mosier Community School