Student Investment Account Annual Report Questions

What changes in behavior, actions, policies or practices have you observed related to SIA implementation during the 2022-23 school year? How do you see these changes contributing to the goals and outcomes in your SIA plan?

We have seen very little shift in the priorities we established since the origin of our SIA plan. We still prioritize the work connected to smaller class sizes; supporting instructional practices for all students, but with a special emphasis on addressing the needs of our focal students; student achievement; SEL and mental health, and mentor and induction/professional learning/retention. The attention in these areas is resulting in positive progress toward our goals. A change that we addressed in our revision this year was attaching dollars to the work we are doing to support family engagement and communication.

What barriers or challenges to SIA implementation have you experienced that are helpful for your community and/or state leaders to be aware of? What adjustments, if any, did you make to your SIA plan as a result of these challenges?

Our primary barriers are staffing and addressing the mental health needs of our school community. Budgeting forced us to re-evaluate spending in order to be more fiscally responsible with the dollars available. We made FTE adjustments for class size and adjusted our SEL/Mental health service model. We shifted away from employing our own SEL/mental health staff to partnering with an outside service provider. While this reduced the cost attached to these roles which provided us more flexibility in the use of SIA funds, we have been left understaffed because the outside service provider has not been able to refill the positions.

SIA implementation includes ongoing engagement with all students, focal students, families, staff, and community partners. How have relationships with or between those groups changed and/or been maintained throughout this academic year? Consider the Community Engagement Toolkit and where your efforts might land on the spectrum as you complete your response.

Our engagement process was dynamic in 22-23. We met with multiple student groups to conduct empathy interviews and story circles. We established student leadership groups on multiple school campuses and centered student voices in decision making. We also came alongside existing affinity and alliance groups providing them resources and support and worked with building leadership to get new groups off the ground. When partnering with families and community members we offered coffee chats, empathy interviews, story circles, forums, and surveys. Communication was prioritized and we received positive feedback from our stakeholders related to the effort the district was making to emphasize transparency. Staff also participated in the engagement efforts that the district rolled out in 22-23. They took opportunities to provide feedback through surveys, empathy interviews, and tory circles. We plan to continue the great work that was initiated during the 22-23 school year as we move forward in 23-24.

As you think about what guided your choices and prioritization efforts in this year of SIA implementation, what stands out? How will what you've learned this year impact future SIA implementation efforts?

Student Achievement data and learnings from engagement with staff, students, families, and community drove the prioritization of our SIA decisions. We will not change course in our future SIA implementation efforts. Those elements should be the focus of our decision making.