



Kevin Stockdale
Finance

Date: August 20, 2024

To: Board of Education
Chief Executive Officer

From: Kevin Stockdale
Chief Financial Officer

Re: Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Disadvantaged Pupil Impact Aid and Student Wellness and Success Funds Plan

The State of Ohio provides school districts Disadvantaged Pupil Impact Aid (DPIA) and Student Wellness and Success Funds (SW&SF) to improve wraparound services, overcome learning obstacles, accelerate student learning, and prepare students for success. During fiscal year 2023-2024, CMSD received \$41.5 million for DPIA and \$7.9 million for SW&SF.

Ohio Revised Code §3317.25 requires school districts 1) to develop a plan for use of funds in collaboration with community partners and 2) to notify governing boards of the plan to use funds. CMSD partners and consults with the Cleveland Clinic, Metro Health Care Alliance Neighborhood Family Practice and others to provide services in alignment with state requirements.

During fiscal year 2024-2024, CMSD will utilize DPIA and SW&SF for the following purposes:

Continue and enhance the Integrated Health Initiative for CMSD which encompasses all Health Services Physical and Mental. Monies will be used to build infrastructure of the program and address deficiencies and gaps in health services.

Through Nursing, foster the growth, development and educational achievement of all scholars by promoting health and wellness in a safe, supportive environment. We are committed to meeting the health needs of individual scholars through collaboration with public and private agencies and health care providers. We advocate for scholars, their families and the school community. School nurses are active members of the educational team and support the District's strategic plan aimed at increasing student success, implementing effective instructional strategies, strengthening resources for diverse populations and more.

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School Psychologists provide support and educational interventions to scholars. We consult with teachers, families, and other school professionals and provide assessments to help guide learning. We counsel scholars individually and in small groups. We support scholars and families in times of crisis. We work with school administrators to improve school-wide climate and teaching. We collaborate with community providers to coordinate needed services. We advocate for all CMSD scholars.

Project ACT provides direct instructional and support services to children and youth residing in temporary emergency shelters, transitional housing and doubled-up students staying with other families due to loss of housing, economic hardship or similar situations. A holistic and comprehensive approach is used to deliver instructional and support services necessary to facilitate the homeless child's transition into school, and to ensure the child's success and ongoing participation in the educational system. Support services include everything necessary to accomplish the goal of meeting students' physical, social and emotional needs, and empowering parents to support their children in this endeavor. All appropriate resources from the Cleveland Metropolitan School District are employed to achieve this goal.

CMSD partners with over twenty Mental Health community agency partners who provide Tier 3 diagnostic treatment services, currently at no cost to our District. During the 2023-2024 school year, these partners reported receiving 3,283 referrals from our schools and 1,478 scholars were opened for insurance-funded services. This gap between recognized need for mental health support and engagement from families in treatment services can be best filled by increasing Tier 2 prevention, early intervention, and targeted support programming in CMSD. Programming could include small skills groups, grief response after a school community's loss, or classroom consultation and activities. In the best practice model of Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS), Tier 2 services typically serve approximately 10-20% of student populations, or 3,468 to 5,202 CMSD scholars. Integrated Health does not currently receive the funding to support these services, which would include both building internal capacity and contracting with external partners specializing in mental health.

The increase of Mental Health support is a main objective of the plan for the upcoming years. The need for post-COVID mental health services for the scholars has risen to a new high. The ability to complete the Mental Health staffing infrastructure and to work on the various programs and services outlined in the earlier section will impact our care by satisfying and closing identified gaps in our service.

The CMSD Department of Integrated Health welcomes ongoing feedback on this plan. Written feedback may be provided to Executive Director Bernetta Wiggins at bernetta.wiggins@clevelandmetroschools.org.