

BRCSD Foundation Aid Increase Plan

The 2021-22 enacted State Budget included language stating that, for the 2021-22, 2022-23 and 2023-24 school years, each school district receiving a Foundation Aid increase of more than 10% or \$10 million must post a plan for how the additional funds will be used to the District website before July 1 of each school year.

Below is a summary of the planned use of the increase in Foundation Aid as included in the Beaver River Central School District 2023-24 Adopted Budget.



Increasing Graduation Rates and Eliminating the Achievement Gap Supportive Data Funding

The District will be investing funding in programs to support students in both core academics and in courses of study to meet student interest. To support student interest, Foundation Aid funding is being used to continue course offerings in Career and Technical Education (CTE), career exploration, exposure, and experience programs K-12, hosting a college fair for high school students, providing transportation to career programs and increased investment in athletic programs. Credit bearing dual enrollment courses will be purchased at no additional fee to students.

In addition, the District will continue to invest in academic programs by increasing the availability of certified teachers and support staff in areas of student need. AIS, Learning Center, and other programs will have additional staff to provide more targeted instruction and support

Strategic planning survey indicated support for highest priority for Academic knowledge and skill such as critical thinking, working in teams and communication skills. In addition, the survey indicated students in the secondary school are less engaged.

Title I survey indicated that more support staff are needed to provide small group instruction for struggling students.

\$1,050,000

Parent and community support is a key component to increasing student engagement. Providing communication structures, parent/community activities, open and free facilities, and athletic programs provides a direct connection between school and community.

Approximately 20% of strategic plan survey indicated the need for community engagement in activities at school

Reducing Class Sizes

The District is using the increase in Foundation Aid to maintain staffing at all school levels. This will allow for continuing classrooms with smaller class sizes than the maximum number of students per classroom. The district will also use funds to enhance recruitment efforts to hire and retain the most effective staff to work with our students.

Strategic planning survey indicated support for highest priority for Academic knowledge and skill such as critical thinking, working in teams and communication skills. \$140,000

Title I survey indicated that more support staff are needed to provide small group instruction for struggling students

Providing Supports for Students Who Are Not Meeting, Or Are at Risk of Not Meeting, State Learning Standards in Core Academic Subject Areas

The District is using a portion of the Foundation Aid increase to support professional development for teachers, instructional supplies, and curriculum development at schools. Funds will be used to implement continuation of extended day learning programs such as Academic Work Study (AWS) for high school students.

Title I survey indicated that more support staff are needed to provide small group instruction for struggling students \$33,000

Addressing Student Social and Emotional Health

The district has hired social workers and counselors over the past few years through stimulus funding. To continue this valuable work, the District will continue to provide these staff through foundation aid. In addition, training and support systems will need to be added. Development of student organizations will need supplies and staffing to provide advisors.

Strategic planning survey indicated support for highest priority for Academic knowledge and skill such as critical thinking, working in teams and communication skills. In addition, the survey indicated students in the secondary school are less engaged.

\$130,000

Physical Health and Safety/Facility Maintenance

The District is hiring additional custodial staff to address cleaning and sanitizing needs in our buildings. With transition of current cleaning staff, the district will hire additional temporary staff during training periods. Additional supplies and equipment will be purchased.

Strategic planning survey responses indicated the need for improved facilities and open facilities for the community.

\$10,000

Staff responses to need for deep cleaning in summer was shared at the end of the year.

Acquisition and Retention of High Quality Staff

Recruitment and support systems will be developed to provide support for new and veteran teachers. Through mentoring programs, salary and benefit adjustments, and more inclusive programing for all staff, foundation aid use will create an atmosphere for supporting staff.

Negotiation meetings indicated the need to be more competitive for staff in the middle of their careers.

\$410,000