

USBE Overview of Funding Requests

2021 Legislative Session – Public Education Appropriations, 1/22/2021

Utah State Board of Education, Mark Huntsman, Chair

Sydnee Dickson, Ed.D., State Superintendent of Public Instruction

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GOALS



Early Learning



Personalized
Teaching & Learning

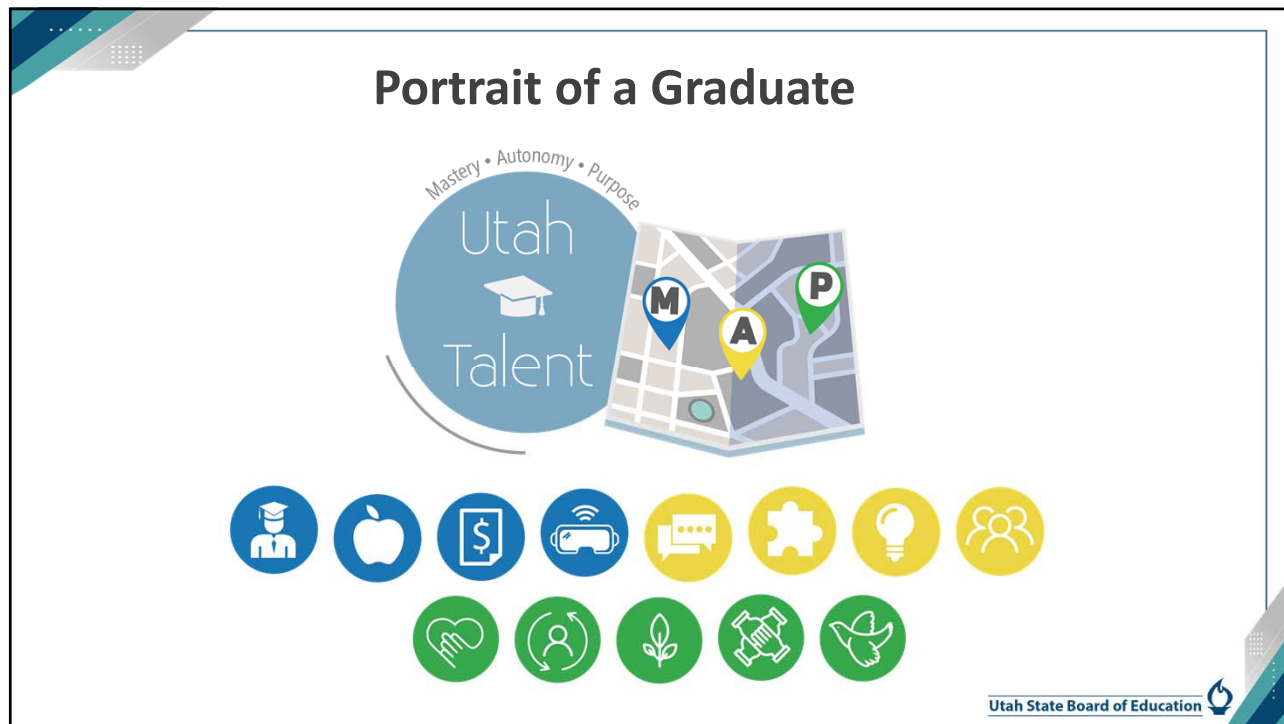


Safe & Healthy
Schools



Effective Educators
& Leaders

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Community Conditions - COVID-19

- **Economic loss**
 - Housing instability causing mobility
 - Food insecurity
 - Older students working and providing childcare
- **Increased social and emotional stress and trauma**
 - Increased stress and anxiety since soft closure and return to school
 - Increased mental health supports needed at school
- **Low to no broadband**
 - Inhibited communication between school and home
 - Limited effective use of digital tools used during remote learning
- **Community virus spread**
 - Students moving in and out of in person learning
 - Varying levels of motivation and engagement

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Disrupted Learning – Due to COVID-19


- **Kindergarten** eligible students didn't enroll, and some students still disengaged, despite being enrolled.
- **Credits earned**, literacy and mathematics proficiency and overall engagement are lower than in previous years.
- Students have been impacted differently and schools will need to provide **differential support**
- Teachers and schools have **real-time data** on student engagement and learning and are using that data to direct instruction
- Statewide **assessment** administration continues
- Increased **mental health** issues increased as indicated through counselor reviews, school climate data, behavioral scales, grades, attendance, etc.



Stakeholder Feedback on Disrupted Learning Needs:

- District/Charter plans for improvement need **flexibility based on context and needs**
- **Short term hires** can help with interventions
- **Professional learning** for educators for retooling of digital skills, intervention strategies, and social/emotional learning
- **Mental health supports** in high demand for students and educators
- **Home supports** to engage parents as important partners
- **Interventions** including targeted instruction, extended time, small group and one on one tutoring, etc.
- **Online/blended model development** for ongoing student opportunities
- **Pockets of innovation** to adopt and adapt new learnings






Ongoing Requests


Early Grades Professional Learning
Requested: \$5 Million

Provides professional learning, strategies, coaching and development to educators in grades PreK-3. These opportunities are even more critical to address disrupted learning due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Priority: 1

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Ongoing Requests


Optional Enhanced Kindergarten
Requested: \$8,692,200 Million

Provides for expanded Kindergarten opportunities for all students showing academic need according to the KEEP assessments.

Priority: 2

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Ongoing Requests

Expanded Access to Broadband


Requested: \$350,000 - Ongoing
Requested: \$5 Million - One-time

Provides funding to extend through FY 2022 existing K-12 Broadband/ Hotspot emergency grant. Helps to secure broadband access as an essential utility to bridge the digital divide and resulting opportunity gaps for students.

Priority: 4

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One-Time Requests

Proactive Measures to Address Disrupted Learning
 Immediate and Ongoing Needs


Requested: \$60 Million – FY21
Requested: \$200 Million – FY22

Provides for immediate and continued interventions and supports for students caused by the pandemic and innovation funding for LEAs to meet the needs of students this year and post COVID-19.

Priorities: 6 and 8

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One-Time Requests


Enhancement for At-Risk Students Program (EARS)
Requested: \$10 Million

Provides for an allocation of funds to LEAs to support students at-risk of academic failure. The needs and numbers of these students have increased due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Priority: 5

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One-Time Requests


Intensive Services Pilot Program
Requested: \$12 Million / Over 3yrs

Creates a three-year Intensive Services Pilot Program to test out and study various approaches to funding the costs of high-needs special education students.

Priority: 3

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1x One-Time Requests

LEA Financial Systems
Requested: \$4 Million

Provides funding for district and charter school financial systems linked with 2020 General Session HB67. Reduces reporting burden for LEAs.

Priority: 7

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