

Performance Note SB0093 - Math and Science Opportunities for Students and Teachers

Sponsor: Sen. Hillyard, Lyle W.



Performance Note Report

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Agency: State Board of Education

Funding For:

New Services or Benefit

Public Benefit:

Purpose: The Math and Science Opportunities for Students grant was originally created in 2008 (as the Utah Science Technology and Research Centers Grant) to: - Assist LEAs in increasing opportunities for students in math and science, - Enable LEAs to use capital facilities more efficiently, and - Increase the retention and attraction of math and science teachers. LEAs across the state are currently offering opportunities to thousands of Utah students in math and science with grant funding. The last application cycle saw an LEA demand for close to 200% of the available funds. The program has also significantly increased the efficiency of capital facility use through extended day and extended year programming for students. Unfortunately, recent data suggests that math and science teachers are not being effectively retained through participation in this program. In fact, teachers were significantly less likely to return to their previous position when paid with program funds when compared with teachers not paid with program funds. The proposed amendments in SB 93 intend to: - rebrand the USTAR Centers program as the Math and Science Opportunities for Students and Teachers (MOST) Program in order to differentiate it from the oft confused and now-defunct USTAR program focused on Tech innovation in higher ed; - increase the flexibility for LEAs in achieving program goals; - increase math and science opportunities for students and teachers, and; - create a more robust monitoring ecosystem designed to support LEAs in meeting their program objectives while empowering LEAs to continue to pursue the programs they previously used program funds to administer.

Services: The services provided by the funding increase include: - USBE monitoring and implementation support - LEA opt-in process for regional MOST specialists - Increased flexibility for LEAs to pursue MOST program goals

Expected Outcome: With increased math and science teacher attraction and retention for participating programs, increased opportunities for students in math and science, and an increase in the efficiency of the use of capital facilities, this request has the potential to combat the teacher shortage we are experiencing, while improving the instructional supports teachers receive, making them more effective in the classroom and better prepared to effectively serve each and every one of their students. Additionally, a systemic monitoring system will be implemented, providing support for LEAs as they pursue their MOST goals and holding them accountable for meeting those goals.

Implementations and Resources: The program will be implemented by USBE staff, districts and charter schools, and regional service agencies. USBE will establish the program's application and reporting process, evaluate LEA applications, provide support to districts and charters in pursuing their goals and work with regional service agencies to establish MOST Specialists and a process for their support of LEA MOST objectives. Districts, charter schools, and regional service agencies will coordinate in assessing local needs and creating proposals based on meeting MOST program objectives.

How: USBE will hire a half-time MOST staff member responsible for overseeing administration, monitoring, and support of the program. LEAs will collaborate both within and across district and charter boundaries in writing proposals that meet MOST program objectives for students and teachers. Regional service agencies will work with LEAs in establishing MOST specialists, who will be responsible for monitoring and supporting LEAs in achieving their proposed objectives.

Performance Measures

Goal

Title: MOST Teacher Retention.

Description: This metric compares the likelihood of a participating MOST educator being retained by an LEA to non-participating educators in that LEA being retained.

Collection Method: LEAs report directly to USBE regarding whether or not their participating math and science teachers continued to participate in the program from year to year. The USBE MOST staff member will perform a yearly audit to ensure LEA compliance with reporting terms established for educator retention.

	2020	2021	2022
Target	0.00	0.00	0.00
Baseline	0.00	0.00	0.00

Goal

Title: Students Served.

Description: This metric compares the number of students participating in MOST programs from the last application cycle to the subsequent application cycles following the 2020 legislative session.

Collection Method: LEAs report directly to USBE regarding the number of students served by MOST programming. This number can be compared across application cycles to determine the reach of the program.

	2020	2021	2022
Target	0.00	0.00	0.00
Baseline	0.00	0.00	0.00

By rule, performance notes are provided by the governmental entity that will supervise the new agency or administer the new program. Performance notes are not written by the Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst.