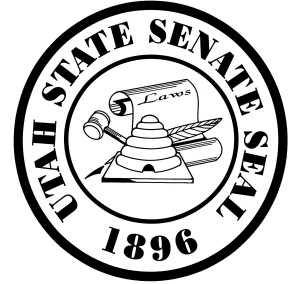




Performance Note
HB0299 - Mental Health
Wellbeing in Schools Pilot
Program

Sponsor: Rep. Watkins, Christine F.



Performance Note Report

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Agency: State Board of Education

Funding For:

New Services or Benefit

Public Benefit:

Purpose: This legislation establishes a one-year pilot program to provide mental health education and training to students, parents, and teachers in up to six selected LEAs. According to the 2019 results from the Utah Student Health and Risk Prevention Survey, which compiles data for students in grades 6, 8, 10, and 12: an average of 36 percent reported experiencing depressive symptoms, 15 percent had purposefully injured themselves 1 or more times in the past 12 months and 12 percent had made a plan about how they would attempt suicide in the past 12 months. These data demonstrate the need for increased support in school-based mental health efforts. This vital need would be addressed through this pilot program. This bill directs USBE to create a mental health education and training pilot program for students, parents, and school staff. It would provide information on neurological development and the impact trauma has on that development which would supplement similar pieces of training currently available. It would also increase mental health crisis prevention efforts and provide mental wellness supports that are not existent in all Utah schools. The statute requires that the program be available through a technological platform, which would also increase the accessibility of mental health education for rural communities.

Services: The services provided through this bill if appropriations are approved include the following: 1. Increased education regarding anxiety depression and suicide for parents and the community; 2. Training and education for teachers in the field of mental health typically not provided in a teacher's required college education courses including: a. Trauma and neurological development; b. Evidence-based methodologies that increase mental health stabilization in the classroom; and c. Tools to identify students who are experiencing a mental health crisis; and 3. Availability of these pieces of training through electronic platforms for rural settings.

Expected Outcome: Students will learn coping skills and techniques to sustain mental wellness. Teachers and staff will be able to access skill-building tools for their own mental wellbeing and support students in their mental health efforts. A technological platform will allow for more accessibility for participating rural schools. This pilot program will also decrease the intensity of mental health needs in targeted areas and mitigate mental health crises.

Implementations and Resources: The program will be implemented by USBE staff, in coordination with partner agencies and stakeholders that are involved in the Utah systems of school-based mental

health. These partners include the Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health, Huntsman Mental Health Institutes, SafeUT, and the Utah Department of Health. Six local education agencies will be selected through the application processes determined by board rule.

How: USBE will hire or assign staff to: 1. Orchestrate the Request for Proposal process with the USBE procurement team to identify a provider with the required services;2. Establish board rule regarding the application process and requirements for LEAs to participate in the pilot program;3. Create the application forms and develop a formula for the distribution of funds to promote the opportunity and facilitate the application process with LEAs;4. Coordinate the application review team and create a rubric for the application scoring if needed;5. Review LEA applications select participants and collaborate with LEA leadership to complete the implementation of the pilot;6. Ensure the administration of pre and post data collection methods; and7. Provide the required reports to the Education Interim Committee.

Performance Measures

Goal

Title: Mental Health Wellbeing in Schools Pilot

Description: This metric will provide competency-based measurements regarding the impact the Mental Health Wellbeing Pilot Program has on participating students.

Collection Method: The data collected for this measurement will require the use of pre- and post-assessments that include the learning objectives for the modules.Target or Benchmark: Benchmarks will be established in alignment with the identified needs of participating pilot LEAs which will include the current levels of anxiety depression and suicide ideation.Baseline: The baseline would be established through the administration of the pre-assessment to each student participating in the program. No baseline data for this program is currently available.

	2021	2022	2023
Target	0.00	0.00	0.00
Baseline	0.00	0.00	0.00

Goal

Title: SHARP Survey

Description: This metric will provide measurements regarding risk factors identified as indicators of anxiety depression and suicide in participating LEAs. Questions regarding depressive symptoms suicide ideation and anxiety are asked of students who are selected to participate in the survey.

Collection Method: This survey is conducted through Bach Harrison in coordination with the USBE Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health and the Utah Department of Health. LEAs who opt to participate in this survey select a valid sample of students in grades 6, 8, 10, and 12 to participate with active parental consent. Benchmarks will be established according to the 2021 administration of the survey and the results concerning the level of need for mental health intervention as expressed by the student depressive symptoms and the percent of students expressing suicide ideation and planning. The baseline would be established through the 2021 administration of the survey from LEAs who chose to participate in the survey and were also selected to participate in the pilot program.

	2021	2022	2023
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.