



VALLEY STREAM 13 SCHOOL DISTRICT

State Foundation Aid Plan

Introduction

The 2021-2022 enacted state budget includes 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 \$10,000,000 a school year must post a plan of how the funds will be used to address student performance and need, including but not limited to:

- Increasing graduation rates and eliminating the achievement gap;
- Reducing class size;
- Providing supports for students who are not meeting, or who are at risk of not meeting, state learning standards in core academic subject areas;
- Addressing student social-emotional health; and
- Providing adequate resources to English language learners, students with disabilities, and students experiencing homelessness.

For the 2021-22 school year, the Valley Stream UFSD Thirteen received a foundation aid increase of 12.50% or \$1,061,465.

Increasing graduation rates and eliminating the achievement gap.

Plan Summary:

In order to mitigate the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on student learning, students require a higher level of support in core academic areas. The district has identified key areas of focus to move student progress forward. At Valley Stream UFSD Thirteen we have a strong focus on the whole child and a commitment to meeting the needs of individual students.

Funds will be used to support the budget to fund various summer, academic intervention services, and additional academic programs during the school year.

Reducing class size.

Plan Summary:

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, additional health and safety protocols may be required, such as minimum spacing between students and capacity limits in classrooms. The district plans to maximize in-person instruction.

Funds will allow the district to increase sections to reduce class sizes at our schools as needed for reopening in September 2021.

Providing supports for students who are not meeting, or who are at risk of not meeting, state learning standards in core academic subject areas.

Plan Summary:

The evidence-based multi-tiered systems of support that exist in the district ensure that students are able to achieve at high levels. These support systems were critically impacted during the COVID-19 pandemic. These systems address student's academic, social, and mental health. These systems will be returned to pre-COVID levels or expanded in the 2021-2022 school year in order to ensure that our students reach their full potential.

Funds will be used to increase staffing for academic support and summer programs district-wide.

Addressing student social-emotional health.

Plan Summary:

Student social-emotional health and well-being must be cared for before student achievement can occur. The district provides students with SEL curriculum, including the RULER (Recognizing, Understanding, Labeling, Expressing, and Regulating emotions) and Responsive Classroom approaches. All buildings have a mental health team that includes a social worker, psychologists, nurse and shared counselor. Students will be returning to school having experienced a great deal of loss and may have residual levels of trauma.

Funds will be used to increase part-time mental health staff, including psychologist and behavioral support.

Providing adequate resources to English language learners, students with disabilities, and students experiencing homelessness.

Plan Summary:

Valley Stream UFSD Thirteen has a robust English language learner program that meets all NYS requirements. All staff will continue to support our ELL students, through evidence-based instructional strategies that are appropriate for this group of students. Ongoing assessment to monitor student progress and individualized support will be provided. ELL students are all offered the opportunity to participate in specialized summer programs tailored to meet their needs.

Students with disabilities are provided with all provisions of FAPE that align with goals of the committee on special education. Students with disabilities are provided with programming that meets individual student needs as per their individualized education plan. Students with disabilities are offered summer programs to meet their needs.

Funds will be used to hire part-time staff to assist with learning loss for students with special needs.

