



Pro^vidence
Schools

ESSER III Funding Priorities

FEBRUARY 2022

LEAP Priorities

Learning, Equity and Accelerated Pathways (LEAP) priorities focus on supporting student growth both academically and social emotionally. The district's LEAP priority areas for ESSER III funds are:

- Attendance
- Use of Data
- Access & Extended Learning
- Equity
- Achievement Gap
- Social & Emotional Health
- World Class Talent
- Family Engagement

These initiatives will supplement the work and investments that PPSD will carry out to meet the goals of the Turnaround Action Plan (TAP).



ATTENDANCE

Student and staff attendance is the vehicle to improved student performance. These initiatives will support students and parents in reducing truancy by monitoring attendance patterns and providing incentives for students to attend school regularly.

TAP Goals

- Increase the percentage of students who are present 90% of the school year
- Increase the percentage of students who feel a sense of belonging at their school

Areas for Investment

- Alternate and flexible schedule options
- Additional transportation options
- Continue and expand best practices to increase attendance: home visits, canvases, school informational neighborhood meetings

USE OF DATA

Meaningful assessment data will be collected and used to create a snapshot of what students know, what they should know, and what they do not know yet. These initiatives will provide teachers and leaders with the tools and knowledge to align and adapt instruction on an ongoing basis.

TAP Goals

- Increase the percentage of principals who demonstrate turnaround school competencies
- **Increase the percentage of PPSD students enrolled in a 2 star or higher school**
- Increase the percentage of schools that have a School Improvement team that meets State requirements

Areas for Investment

- Accessible and user-friendly data dashboards for schools, teachers, students, and families
- Professional development for teachers to create Professional Learning Communities
- Professional Development for school leaders on data driven instruction, interim assessment platforms
- Use data to support and inform School Improvement Teams

ACCESS & EXTENDED LEARNING

Access and extended learning will allow all students to gain skills and knowledge outside of the classroom and the traditional school day. These initiatives will support students as they acquire knowledge and apply it to real world situations.

TAP Goals

- Increase the percentage of PPSD students who graduate within four years
- Increase the percentage of 9th graders who are on track for postsecondary success

Areas for Investment

- Extending school year and/or school day
- High quality, rigorous district wide summer learning programs
- Place-based learning and internships
- RICAS & SAT Bootcamps
- After school and Saturday Academy time to improve grades and makeup credit
- Expand support in navigating the college admissions and career induction processes

EQUITY

All students will have access to opportunities that support academic success, fairness, and inclusion. These are identified teaching strategies and practices that will support equity initiatives.

TAP Goals

- Increase the percentage of students who feel a sense of belonging at their school
- Increase the percentage of families with a favorable perception of being involved with their child's school

Areas for Investment

- Culturally Responsive Teaching and high quality professional development embedded in Project-Based Learning, college and career readiness
- Capacity building for family and community partnerships
- Additional translation opportunities for ELL/MLL students and families
- Accessibility for Differently Abled Students, their families, and parents with handicaps

SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL HEALTH

Social emotional learning (SEL) is part of a student's education and human development. SEL helps students acquire and apply the knowledge, skills, and attitudes to develop healthy identities and manage their emotions. It also helps students achieve goals, demonstrate empathy for others, engage in supportive relationships, and make responsible decisions.

TAP Goals

- Increase the percentage of PPSD students who graduate within four years
- Increase the percentage of 9th graders who are on track for postsecondary success
- Increase the percentage of students who feel a sense of belonging at their school

Areas for Investment

- Increase resources for behavior supports
- Increase the number of community involvement specialists
- Implement Positive Behavioral Intervention and Supports (PBIS)

ACHIEVEMENT GAP

The Achievement Gap refers to any significant and persistent inequalities in academic performance or educational attainment between different groups of students. These initiatives will reduce and close the Achievement Gap between groups of students, specifically focusing on underperforming minority students.

TAP Goals

- Increase the percentage of students Meeting and Exceeding Expectations on the 3rd & 8th grade Math & ELA RICAS
- Increase the percentage of students Meeting and Exceeding Expectations on the Math & ELA SAT**
- Increase the percentage of students who are meeting their annual MLL targets on the ACCESS assessment
- Increase the percentage of students who graduate with college credit, AP credit, or a CTE credential

Areas for Investment

- Increasing rigor with any adoption of high-quality curriculum and materials
- College Advisement Program Counselors and access to accelerated courses
- Increase Advanced Placement (AP) course offering
- Multi-tiered systems of support (MTSS) to ensure students' individual needs are met

WORLD CLASS TALENT

Every school will be staffed with highly effective teachers and leaders. PPSD will recruit, mentor, and retain teachers through an equitable hiring process, while developing external relationships, specifically with higher education, to strengthen teacher recruitment and retention.

TAP Goals

- Increase the percentage of teachers who have access to job-embedded professional development
- Increase the percentage of teachers holding and using the ESL/BDL certification
- Increase the percentage of teachers who are present 90% of the school year

Areas for Investment

- Expand professional growth opportunities for teachers and school leaders to create conditions for success
- Summer Teacher and Principal Academies
- Seeking to become Rhode Island's first in-house ESL certification program
- Data-driven professional growth opportunities to meet the needs of the staff

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

All families will be included, involved, and engaged in their student's learning, development, and wellness. Meaningful community partnerships have a positive impact on a student's health, academic, and well-being outcomes.

TAP Goals

- Increase the percentage of families with a favorable perception of being involved with their child's school
- Increase the percentage of PPSD families with a favorable perception of the District
- Increase the number of parents and caregivers engaged with the District's formal community engagement structures

Areas for Investment

- Additional methods for consistent and transparent family communication
- Expand Parent Academy options for PPSD families to learn best practices of technology for public services to close the digital divide
- District subscriptions for students to access digital books, libraries, and newspaper publications in multiple languages
- Support families with translation services in 300 languages