

MEMORANDUM

TO: Chairperson and Members  
Boston School Committee

FROM: Nathan Kuder  
Chief Financial Officer

SUBJECT: Grants for Approval

DATE: March 17, 2021

Attached please find the grants for approval by the School Committee on March 17, 2021. Full copies of the grant proposals are available for your review and have been filed with the Office of the Secretary to the School Committee.



**GRANTS FOR SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPROVAL**  
**March 17, 2021**

<b>Amount</b>	<b>FY</b>	<b>Grant Name</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Fund Manager</b>	<b>Focus Area(s)</b>	<b>Sites</b>
\$3,875,563	2021	FY21 State COVID Prevention Fund	New	Nathan Kuder	Covid-19	Districtwide
\$45,000	2021	FAFSA Completion Opportunity Grant	New	Catherine Chiu	Achievement Gap	6 Sites
\$41,500	2021	Summer Food Service Program: Expansion, Access, Training and Start-Up	New	Kelly Thompson	Food Nutrition Services	Districtwide
\$10,000	2021	21st Century Community Learning Centers - Continuation Grant Enhanced Programs for Students on an IEP	Increase	Kenya Elisa-McLaren	SPED	Gardner Pilot Academy
\$25,085	2021	Title II-A – Improving Educator Quality	Increase	Nathan Kuder	Educator Effectiveness	Districtwide
<b>\$3,997,148</b>	<b>Total</b>					

## **SCHOOL COMMITTEE ACCEPTANCE FORM**

Grant Name: FAFSA Completion Opportunity Grant

Status: New

Grant Type: Entitlement

Start & End Dates: Upon Approval – June 30, 2021

Funding Source: Federal through State

Grantor Contact: Contact Nyal Fuentes  
Address Office of College & Career Readiness, 75 Pleasant Street, Malden, MA 02148  
Phone (781) 338-3593  
Email: [nyal.f.Fuentes@mass.gov](mailto:nyal.f.Fuentes@mass.gov)

Lead BPS Department and/or School(s): Office of Secondary Schools

BPS Program Manager: Catherine Chiu, Director of Guidance

Department Head/School Leader: Lindsa McIntyre & Elia Bruggeman, Secondary School Superintendents

Annual Award Amount: \$45,000

Total Award Amount (if grant period more than a year): \$45,000

Carry-forward option: No

Approximate # of students (or teachers, central office staff) served: 841

Sites: Boston Latin Academy, Brighton High School, East Boston High School, Madison Park High School, O'Bryant Math Science High School, TechBoston Academy

Key External Partners: MassEdco

### **Grant Description**

This federal grant provides direct support to students and families in the completion of the Free Applications for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) in high schools with high numbers of economically disadvantaged students. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic districts have experienced significantly lower percentages of students applying for the FAFSA and college. The grant's overall purpose is to increase the number of students completing FAFSA and attending college through the use of data to identify and support their families with the financial aid application process in fifty (50) identified high schools in Massachusetts.

### **Expense Categories this Grant Pays For**

~34% of the grant will be allocated to the identified six schools to facilitated weekly after-school coordinated action sessions to review data with partners and create systems for service delivery of target students  
~41% of the grant funds will be used to engage with a partner agency to deepen language-based FAFSA advising and application support services for students and families during the evening and weekend hours

~19% of the grant will be used to create and manage a peer-to-peer communications strategy, develop student-facing content, and amplify social media opportunities among stakeholders including PD for 70 counselors on engaging with social media as an outreach strategy

~6% will be allocated to weekly advertisements on radio and community news on the importance of FAFSA, the checklist, and available resources across the city

### **Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Realistic, and Time-bound (SMART) Goals**

**Goal #1:** By May 1, 2021, the BPS FAFSA completion rates will increase from 41%% to 47% of all seniors, and then to 60% by June 30th. Identified subgroups at the six target schools will increase their FAFSA completion rates through increased access to bilingual financial aid one-on-one sessions, coordinated services with partners, and targeted for personalized FAFSA application support through the effective use of data.

**Indicator:** CR307 school-level reports (FAFSA Completion Report Summary) from DESE's Edwin Analytics

**Please specify how this grant aligns with the district's 20/25 Strategic Vision's Commitment (s) and Priority(s). Please List them below: (see attached – go to (page 59))**

1) Eliminate opportunity & achievement gaps - equitable and excellent student outcomes  
Anchor Goal #1- BPS students will be ready for success in college, career, and life

## **SCHOOL COMMITTEE ACCEPTANCE FORM**

Grant Name: Summer Food Service Program: Expansion, Access, Training and Start-Up (SFSP EATS) Grant for New and Existing Sponsors

Status: New

Grant Type: Competitive

Start & End Dates: Upon Approval – June 30, 2021

Funding Source: State

Grantor Contact: Kristen Torres  
75 Pleasant St, Malden, MA 02148  
Phone: (781)-338-6453  
Email: ktorres@doe.mass.edu

Lead BPS Department and/or School(s): Department of Food and Nutrition Services

BPS Program Manager: Kelly Thompson, Nutrition Manager, KThompson4@bostonpublicschools.org

Department Head/School Leader: Laura Benavidez, Executive Director of Food and Nutrition,  
lbenavidez@bostonpublicschools.org

Annual Award Amount: \$41,500

Total Award Amount (if grant period more than a year): \$ N/A

Carry-forward option: No

Approximate # of students (or teachers, central office staff) served: 390,000 anticipated meals served based on summer 2019 data. All children 18 and younger are eligible.

Sites: Districtwide

Key External Partners: Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, Project Bread, Boston Center for Youth and Families, Boston Housing Authority, MA Dept. of Conservation and Recreation, Independent church groups and youth serving organizations, Mayor's Office of Food Access

### **Grant Description**

The purpose of this state-funded grant is to encourage new and existing Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) sponsors to increase participation in the program by serving more children per day, extend the length of the SFSP, and create new sites. The creation of new sites will increase program availability to participants not currently receiving program services.

### **Expense Categories this Grant Pays For**

~85% will go to supplies and materials

~15% will go towards marketing and advertising

Subject to change based on award amount

This grant will fund the purchase of refrigeration equipment which will allow sites who don't have the capacity to store meals at proper temperature to be able to do so, ultimately increasing the number of children and programs we can serve. This grant will also fund advertisements in the Bulletin Newspaper which will market Boston's summer meals program as well as providing information on serving sites, date, and meal times. La Mega radio station will also feature BPS summer meal ads.

**Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Realistic, and Time-bound (SMART) Goals**

**Goal #1:** Total meals served in the summer meals program increased by 5% when compared to SY19 data. This would be approximately 14,100 more meals served from SFSP SY19. All children 0-18 years old are eligible to receive breakfast and lunch at summer meal sites. In SFSP SY19 there were approximately 127 meal sites.

**Indicator:** Total number of meals claimed in the summer meals program.

**Please specify how this grant aligns with the district's 20/25 Strategic Vision's Commitment (s) and Priority(s). Please List them below:**

**4) Expand Opportunity (Fair and equitable funding and welcoming environment):** The grant funds will be used to expand the opportunity for summer meals throughout the district.

**SCHOOL COMMITTEE ACCEPTANCE FORM – BPS21481**

Grant Name: 21st Century Community Learning Centers - Continuation Grant Enhanced Programs for Students on an IEP

Status: Increase

Grant Type: Entitlement

Start & End Dates: October 1, 2020 – August 31, 2021

Funding Source: Federal through State

Grantor Contact: Karyl Resnick  
Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education  
75 Pleasant Street, Malden, MA 02148-4906  
Phone: 781-338-3515  
Email: [kresnick@doe.mass.edu](mailto:kresnick@doe.mass.edu)

Lead BPS Department and/or School(s): BPS Office of School Support - Expanded Learning Time

BPS Fund Manager: Kenya Elisa-McLaren, Project Manager

Department Head/School Leader: Andrea Zayas, CAO

Annual Award Amount: \$23,357  
+\$10,000  
\$33,357

Total Award Amount (if grant period more than a year): N/A

Carry-forward option: No

Approximate # of students (or teachers, central office staff) served: 25 students, after school leaders

Sites: Gardner Pilot Academy

Key External Partners: YMCA of Greater Boston

**Grant Description**

This grant program uses federal special education funding to continue to enhance the capacity of existing federal FC 645 21st Century Community Learning Centers programs (CCLC) to more effectively include students on Individualized Education Programs (IEP) into existing programs.

**Expense Categories this Grant Pays For**

100% of this grant will pay for after school leaders and partners to receive mentorship and professional development from the school's IEP team to better serve students on IEPs in the after school program.

**Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Realistic, and Time-bound (SMART) Goals**

**Goal #1:** During the 20-21 school year, SAYO-T for students with special needs will demonstrate a post mean of 3.0 or higher in the area of perseverance.

**Indicator:** Pre and post SAYO Teacher surveys

**Goal #2:** During the 20-21 school year, SAYO-T and SAYO-S for students with special needs will demonstrate 20% growth or higher in the area of relationships with adults.

**Indicator:** Pre and post SAYO Teacher and Staff surveys

**Please specify how this grant aligns with the district's 20/25 Strategic Vision's Commitment (s) and Priority(s). Please List them below:**

The 21st CCLC Grant is critical to assisting the Gardner Pilot Academy and other BPS sites in providing students with the social, emotional, and academic support needed to succeed. Despite the limitations placed on schools due to the COVID-19 crisis, teachers and community partners strive to offer programs which are aligned to each of the district's six Commitments:

**1. Eliminate Opportunity and Achievement Gaps**

This grant aligns with Priority 1.10 by supporting the development and monitoring of specific goals for students with disabilities. Staff will implement strategies to increase inclusionary practices and decrease disproportionality

**2. Accelerate Learning**

Priority 2.2 commits to supporting and coaching educators to deliver high quality inclusionary learning opportunities to ensure students with disabilities are well served.

**3. Amplify All Voices**

Priority 3.3 ensures that all families and students are welcomed and valued in our schools; as well as including them as partners in school decisions and student learning. This grant achieves this goal through family/caregiver engagement opportunities.

**4. Expand Opportunity**

The Continuation of 21st CCLC funding aligns with Priority 4.2 which improves funding formulas and creates mechanisms to ensure equitable distribution of resources generated through this grant.

**5. Cultivate Trust**

The grant requirement to implement SAYO surveys and collect USED data supports Priority 5.6 to increase transparency and accountability by providing new data tools and ensuring public reporting.

**6. Activate Partnerships**

The premise of 21st CCLC fulfills Priority 6.1 to connect every student to high quality before and after school; as well as summer programs to activate learning, build skills and eliminate learning gaps resulting from student inactivity.



**SCHOOL COMMITTEE ACCEPTANCE FORM – BPS21176**

Grant Name: Title II-A – Improving Educator Quality  
Status: Increase  
Grant Type: Entitlement  
Start & End Dates: September 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021  
Funding Source: Federal through State  
Grantor Contact: Julia Foodman, Resource Allocation Strategy and Planning  
ESE, 75 Pleasant Street, Malden, MA 02148  
Phone: 781-338-3577  
Email: jfoodman@doe.mass.edu

Lead BPS Department and/or School(s): Districtwide

BPS Fund Manager: Nathan Kuder, Chief Financial Officer

Department Head/School Leader: Nathan Kuder, Chief Financial Officer

Annual Award Amount: \$ 3,254,353  
+\$ 25,085  
\$ 3,279,438

Total Award Amount (if grant period more than a year): \$

Carry-forward option: Yes

Approximate # of students (or teachers, central office staff) served: 54,871

Sites: Districtwide

Key External Partners: None

**Grant Description**

Title II funding is intended to increase student academic achievement by improving teacher and principal quality. This includes increasing the number of highly qualified teachers in classrooms, improving the skills of principals and assistant principals in schools, and increasing the effectiveness of teachers and principals. The FY21 Title II allocation will continue to provide strong starts for new teachers and advancement opportunities for veteran teachers, and promote diversity in hiring through targeted efforts of our Human Capital Diversity team.

**Expense Categories this Grant Pays For**

~48% of the grant will be allocated to personnel working on evaluation, recruitment and retention, diversity team support, and performance management for BPS' Human Capital, and Reading Recovery for the Office of Academics.  
~21% will be used to pay for stipends and contracts for the early hiring initiative and new teacher development programs.  
~13% will be allocated to non-public schools based on an equitable per student rate  
~15% will be used to support costs for our programs to recruit, develop and train a cohort of teachers reflective of racial, cultural and linguistic diversity of our Boston students

~3% will be used for indirect expenses.

**Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Realistic, and Time-bound (SMART) Goals**

**Goal #1:** New Teacher Development - In FY21, the New Teacher Development Program will provide school-based support to all first-year educators by pairing them with experienced mentors and full-time New Teacher Developers.

**Indicator:** 82% of new teachers will rate the mentoring, coaching, and professional development they receive as effective

**Goal #2:** Early Hiring Initiative - Sustain early hiring efforts across BPS schools as measured by schools filling at least 80% of jobs that were posted on March 1, by June 1st. Ensure BPS's lowest performing schools meet or exceed the district average.

**Indicator:** TalentEd job fill data

**Goal #3:** Evaluation - During the 2020-21 school year, 95% of teachers and administrators will receive performance evaluations on-time and according to state regulations.

**Indicator:** Formative assessment, formative evaluations, and summative evaluations.

**Goal #4:** Diversity Initiative - During the 2020-21 hiring season, 25% of teachers hired for the upcoming school year will self-identify as black and 45% of teachers hired for the upcoming school year will self-identify as people of color.

**Indicator:** Employee self-reporting