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MEMORANDUM

TO: Chairperson and Members  
Boston School Committee

FROM: Nathan Kuder  
Chief Financial Officer

SUBJECT: Grants for Approval

DATE: March 22, 2023

Attached please find the grants for approval by the School Committee on March 22, 2023. 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.

Boston Public Schools

Mary Skipper, Superintendent

Boston School Committee

Jeri Robinson, Chair

City of Boston

Michelle Wu, Mayor



## GRANTS FOR SCHOOL COMMITTEE

March 22, 2023

Amount	FY	Grant Name	Status	Fund Manager	Focus Area(s)	Sites
\$84,000	2023	Early College Support Grant FC460	Increase	Lydia Emmons	College & Career Readiness	5 Sites
\$15,000	2023	Financial Literacy Planning & Implementation Grant FC104	New	Angela Hedley-Mitchell	Curriculum & Instruction	Districtwide
\$39,350	2023	SEL Mental Health Grant FC 311	New	Whitney Walker	Social & Emotional Learning	Districtwide
\$100,000	2023	Support to Schools & Districts FC149	New	Ashley Hutchinson O'connor	Extended Learning Time	Districtwide
<b>\$238,350</b>	<b>Total</b>					

**SCHOOL COMMITTEE ACCEPTANCE FORM – BPS23623**

Grant Name: Early College Support Grants FC460

Status: **Increase**

Grant Type: Entitlement

Start & End Dates: 1/04/22 - 6/30/23

Funding Source: Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

Grantor Contact: Kristin Hunt

Grantor Address: 75 Pleasant Street, Malden, MA

Grantor Phone: (781) 338-3000

Grantor Email: Kristin.E.Hunt@mass.gov

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

Charlestown High School

Dearborn STEM Academy

Fenway High School

Madison Park Technical Vocational High School

New Mission High School

BPS Program Manager: Lydia Emmons, Director of Early College Programs

Department Head/School Leader:

Charlestown High School, Ajay Trivedi

Dearborn STEM Academy, Darlene Marcano

Fenway High School, Geoffrey Walker

Madison Park Technical Vocational High School, Dr. Sidney Brown

New Mission High School, Will Thomas

**Increase Amount:** **\$84,000**

Total Amount Awarded \$574,000

Carry-forward option: No

Approximate # of students (or teachers, central office staff) served: 318

How are these sites chosen?: Current Designated Early College Programs

Key External Partners (if any):

University of Massachusetts Boston

Wentworth Institute of Technology

Bunker Hill Community College

Benjamin Franklin Cummings Institute of Technology

**Purpose:**

Through Early College Support Grant DESE provides implementation support to existing Early College programs. This support funds staff capacity, instructional materials, transportation, and planning stipends across 5 secondary schools and ensures high quality program delivery.

**Desired Outcomes:**

1. Increase enrollment into High Quality Early College Pathways at Charlestown High School, Dearborn STEM Academy, Fenway High School, Madison Park Vocational Technical High School and New Mission HS.
2. Increase the number of students graduating from high school with at least 12 highly transferable college credits

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

**Goal #1:** Enroll an additional cohort of Early College students at each participating high school by 12/22 increasing enrollment from 183 in SY22 to 318 in SY 23.

**Indicator:** October SIMS Data

**Goal #2:** Ensure 75% of senior Early College cohort graduate with a minimum of 12 college credits in June 2023

**Indicator:** DESE Senior credit tracker and DHE HEIRS data analysis

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)

Early College pathways provide relevant, authentic and immersive education to all of our students. Through these programs we seek to increase access to college coursework for Boston Public Schools students and reduce the time and cost of a first credential of value. This directly aligns with the district's 20/25 Strategic Vision as it creates equitable opportunities for young people to pursue high quality college and career pathways

Accelerate Learning 2.1 “Redesign Secondary Schools”- in coordination with the “Accelerate Learning” commitment and priority identified in the 20/25 Strategic Vision, the Early College programs are expanded over the years so that BPS is always able to offer rigorous, college coursework to its students.

Active Partnerships 6.4 “Champion college and career awareness” - in coordination with the “Active Partnerships” commitment and priority identified in the 20/25 Strategic Vision, the Early College programs require deep higher ed partnerships that create opportunities for students to engage in college coursework with embedded wrap around supports.

## SCHOOL COMMITTEE ACCEPTANCE FORM – BPS23624

Grant Name: Financial Literacy Planning and Implementation – FC104

Status: New

Grant Type: Start & End Dates: 2/1/23 - 6/30/23

Funding Source: State

Grantor Contact: Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

Grantor Address: 75 Pleasant Street, Malden, MA 02148

Grantor Phone: 781-338-3807

Grantor Email: [gail.a.castle@mass.gov](mailto:gail.a.castle@mass.gov)

Lead BPS Department and/or School(s): Teaching & Learning, History/Social Studies Department

BPS Program Manager: Angela Hedley-Mitchell

Department Head/School Leader: Lesley Ryan Miller

Annual Award Amount: \$ 15,000

Carry-forward option: No

Approximate # of students (or teachers, central office staff) served: BPS students grades 3-12 will have access to the financial literacy resources.

### **Sites:**

All schools serving grades 3-12 will have access to curriculum materials

How are these sites chosen? All schools will be allowed to access curriculum modules

Key External Partners (if any):

### **Priorities:**

- Work with teacher leaders to build out financial literacy modules
- Pilot financial literacy modules Winter of 2023-2024
- Receive data on the pilot and expand implementation

### **Purpose:**

Boston Public Schools History and Social Studies department is proposing to develop curriculum modules about Financial Literacy that can be embedded within social studies curriculum or used on their own for grades K-12. To reach this goal, BPS History and Social Studies department will convene teacher leaders to help develop financial literacy modules using resources from Next Gen and Junior Achievement. BPS teacher leaders will develop a high-quality curriculum map for the modules that is aligned to the Commonwealth's Standards for Personal Financial Literacy.

### **Desired Outcomes:**

Due to the grant from SY19-20 the district was able to start work with teacher leadership to begin to build out what financial literacy could be in the BPS. The teacher leadership was able to develop six pillars for financial literacy including personal banking, credit, paying for college/trade school, behavioral economics, career, and growing wealth. From the pillars the next stage of work involves developing and piloting modules that will be implemented across various grade levels. Last year the work to develop modules was minimal but receiving the grant can help build back the work from the previous grant.

**Date of Outcomes Report will be completed and available:** September 30, 2023

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

**Goal #1:** To continue to work with financial literacy teacher leaders beginning April 1, 2023. To use the BPS Financial Literacy pillars (Personal Banking, Credit, Paying for College/Trade School, Behavioral Economics, Career, Growing Wealth) to develop one module per grade band K-2, 3-5, 6-8, and 9-12 for SY 23-24.

Indicator: Attendance at the financial literacy teacher leader meetings. Curriculum module development and piloting.

**Goal #2:** By November 1, 2023, provide piloting teachers with professional learning and curriculum resources to support the implementation of financial literacy modules with the BPS.

Indicator: Completion of modules by September 1, 2023. Begin pilot implementation in November 2023.

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)

Engaging students in financial literacy is essential to developing well rounded students, to empower them to make informed future financial decisions. The Financial Literacy Grant provide teachers with opportunities to provide students with financial literacy information to build student knowledge of multiple aspects of financial literacy during their educational career in BPS. The financial literacy grant will also support teacher implementation of the district created modules through professional learning. The grant aligns with the district's 20-25 Strategic Plan commitment of accelerating learning and amplify all voices. The grant will provide teachers with resources and curriculum vetted by teacher leadership to provide culturally and linguistically affirming methodology to exploring topics of personal finance and financial literacy. Engaging teachers in professional learning and the development of a financial literacy educator group; will build teacher networks to share practices and content, providing students financial literacy education built upon district collaboration.

## SCHOOL COMMITTEE ACCEPTANCE FORM – BPS23697

**Grant Name:** SEL, Mental Health Grant Boston - FC311 Supporting SEL, Behavioral & Mental Health, and Wellness

**Status:** Continuation

**Grant Type:** Federal and State – Continuation administered by the Office of Student and Family Support

**Start & End Dates:** 1/1/23 – Jun 30, 2023

**Funding Source:** MA DOE

**Grantor Contact:** Chris Pond

**Grantor Address:** 75 Pleasant Street, Malden, MA 02148

**Grantor Phone:** 781-338-3611

**Grantor Email:** christine.a.pond@mass.gov

**Lead BPS Department and/or School(s):** Behavioral Health Services

**BPS Program Manager:** Whitney Walker

**Department Head/School Leader:** Andria Amador, Sarah Jay

**Annual Award Amount:** \$ 39,350

**Carry-forward option:** None

**Approximate # of students (or teachers, central office staff) served:** BPS district

**Sites:** District-wide based on application

**How are these sites chosen?** Application, priority given to schools with 1 or fewer mental health partners

**Key External Partners (if any):** None

**Priorities:** Support before/after-school mental health supports (tier 2) for students and families

**Purpose:** To expand MTSS mental health practice beyond the school day to increase accessibility to the BPS community by supporting Tier 2 MH services being delivered to students and families outside the school day. To develop sustainable mental health training materials to ensure high quality service delivery.

**Desired Outcomes:** Increase accessibility of mental health services to students and families. Increased capacity for tier 2 mental health service delivery.

**Date of Outcomes Report will be completed and available:** Jul 30, 2023

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

**Goal #1:** Support before/after school mental health services in schools with one or fewer mental health partners.

**Indicator:** Number of students and families reached with each school-based service, broken down by school

**Goal #2:** Develop sustainable mental health training materials to support ongoing high quality MTSS service delivery

**Indicator:** Database of mental health trainings online, available to BPS staff and mental health partner agency clinicians.

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 and achievement gaps***

*1.8 Develop capacity to address health and social contributors to opportunity gaps, such as - hunger, chronic illness, mental health, sexual health, homelessness, and LGBTQ+ identify.*

This grant supports the expansion of tier 2 mental health services provided at accessible times to both students and families. It focuses on closing access gaps to mental health services by prioritizing schools with one or fewer mental health partners. It aims to expand the district's capacity to support students' mental health in order to help them succeed both academically and social emotionally.

### ***3 - Amplify All Voices***

*3.3 Welcome and value all families and students in our schools, including them as partners in school improvement and student learning.*

*3.7 Engage families and community to understand needs and engage in shared decision making through texts, on-line, surveys, and calling. and regular access to district and school based leaders during regional, school-based and district level meetings*

This grant supports meaningful connections between school staff and BPS students/families at more accessible times. By offering parent services before/after school hours, staff are able to be more flexible to parent schedules. By expanding student mental health services beyond the school day, BPS staff are able to deepen connections with students. This expanded service model builds in feedback opportunities for students and families, in order to inform future programming.

### ***6 - Activate Partnerships***

*6.1 Connect every student to high quality before and after school, summer, and transition programs, and high school work experiences and internships in order to activate learning, build skills, and develop social capital.*

This grant allows us to expand before and after school offerings to students and families which center mental health and wellness in creative ways. This grant will support a wide range of before/after school mental health-centered offerings, including (but not limited to): groups, info sessions, and community events for both students and families.



## SCHOOL COMMITTEE ACCEPTANCE FORM – BPS23698

Grant Name: OST Strategic Support Grant - FC149

Status: New

Grant Type: Start & End Dates: 8/12/22 – 8/31/23

Funding Source: Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

Grantor Contact: Jennifer Wu

Grantor Address: 75 Pleasant Street, Malden, MA 02148

Grantor Phone: 781-338-3566

Grantor Email: [Jennifer.Y.Wu@mass.gov](mailto:Jennifer.Y.Wu@mass.gov)

Lead BPS Department and/or School(s): UP Academy Holland

BPS Program Manager: Ashley Hutchinson O'Connor, Director of Finance (UPEN)

Department Head/School Leader: Victoria Thompson

Annual Award Amount: \$100,000

Carry-forward option: N/A

Approximate # of students (or teachers, central office staff) served: 61

Sites: UP Academy Holland

How are these sites chosen? In partnership with DESE

Key External Partners (if any): None

Priorities:

Recruit and hire extraordinary leaders, teachers, and support staff, and build and utilize systems to evaluate, develop, promote, reward and retain this staff over the long term.

Purpose:

Teacher retention is so important to the school's progress, and a competitive compensation system will allow us to better retain staff over the short and long term.

**Desired Outcomes:** Increase staff retention numbers.

**Date of Outcomes Report will be completed and available:** August 2023, when staff report for school year 2023-2024.

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

Goal #1: UP Academy Holland will retain >85% of BTU staff from school year 2022-2023 to 2023-2024, as measured by the number of BTU staff who return to positions at UAH in August 2023.

Indicator: Number of staff that return to work at UP Academy Holland for school year 2023-2024.

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)

1.2 Hire and retain a workforce that reflects the racial, ethnic, and linguistic diversity of the students and families we serve.

5.1 Hire, support, and retain a workforce at every level that reflects our students' diverse cultures and languages; and address the structural barriers which impact staff and educators of color.

With this grant money used to compensate our staff to more closely align with the salary scale at other comparable schools, we hope to increase our staff retention.