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Superintendent of Schools

8.6

BOARD OF EDUCATION ACTION ITEM

March 12, 2019

Topic:
Consideration Approval for Low Performing Students Block Grant (LPSBG) for Madera County Independent Academy (MCIA) and Pioneer Technical Center (PTC).

8.6.1 Madera County Independent Academy
8.6.2 Pioneer Technical Center

Background:
Governor Brown signed Assembly Bill 1808 into law on June 27, 2018. AB1808 authorizes the allocation of a $300 million Low-Performing Students Block Grant in the 2018 – 19 fiscal year to provide California's low-performing students with additional supports to increase their academic achievement as defined in the California Education Code (EC), Section 41570(d). The LPSBG provides funds for local educational agencies (LEAs) serving students identified as low-performing on state English language arts or mathematics assessments, who are not otherwise identified for supplemental grant funding under the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF), or eligible for special education services.

Financial Impact:
Expected Funds to be Allocated to Madera County Independent Academy $19,760
Expected Funds to be Allocated to Pioneer Technical Center $19,760

Resource:
Leslie Neumeier
Director
Career Technical and Alternative Education Services

Recommendation:
Approval of Low Performing Students Block Grant for Madera County Independent Academy and Pioneer Technical Center.

Low Performing Students Block Grant (LPSBG) Report Number One: Madera County Independent Academy

In order to successfully increase and improve students' outcomes at Madera County Independent Academy (MCIA), the LPSBG funds will be used to enhance curriculum and provide professional development to teachers to ensure improving the delivery of the curriculum. Through enhanced curriculum and professional development, teachers will focus lessons on problem/project-based learning to increase the relevance and rigor required to develop 21st Century skills.

MCIA will measure the effectiveness of the services through a variety of formative and summative assessments. Students will benefit from a variety of class options such as blended learning, independent studies, on-line curriculum, and small class settings. Teachers will receive ongoing professional development from Madera County Superintendent of Schools and other educational agencies that provide research based professional development.

Madera County Independent Academy is committed to providing a personal educational experience and a smaller learning environment with a low teacher to student ratio and independent studies. Academic supports will include opportunities for independent study, blended learning, on-line curriculum, and additional academic resources. MCIA will provide individual academic advising and students will have access to an academic counselor with a very low counselor to student case load. MCIA will continue to access training and support services from ELA, EL, and Math consultants from Madera County Superintendent of Schools to address additional needs during the current school year and upcoming school years. A strong support program exists for students, which includes designated PPS counselors who provide academic counseling and oversee workshops, career exploration, and transportation options.

Low Performing Students Block Grant (LPSBG) Report Number One: Pioneer Technical Center

In order to successfully increase and improve students' outcomes at Pioneer Technical Center (PTC), the LPSBG funds will be used to enhance curriculum and provide professional development to teachers to ensure improving the delivery of the curriculum. Through enhanced curriculum and professional development, teachers will focus lessons on problem/project-based learning to increase the relevance and rigor required to develop 21st Century skills.

Pioneer Technical Center will measure the effectiveness of the services through a variety of formative and summative assessments. In addition, students will increase the number of credits earned as they make progress toward graduation. Teachers will receive ongoing professional development from Madera County Superintendent of Schools and other educational agencies that provide research based professional development.

Pioneer Technical Center is committed to providing a personal educational experience and a smaller learning environment with a low teacher to student ratio and independent studies. Academic supports will include opportunities for independent study and credit recovery to assist students who are behind on credits to graduate. PTC will provide individual academic advising and students will have access to an academic counselor with a very low counselor to student case load. Students attending PTC have options to take online classes for original credit and credit recovery in order to earn additional credits towards graduation requirements. PTC has been reliant on the services provided by the designated teacher on special assignment to provide curriculum assistance in meeting the needs of students. PTC will continue to access training and support services from ELA, EL, and Math consultants from Madera County Superintendent of Schools to address additional needs during the current school year and upcoming school years. A strong support program exists for students, which includes designated PPS counselors who provide academic counseling and oversee workshops, career exploration, transportation, and child care options.