

2020-2021 State Assessments Review for 2022-2023 Budget Considerations

District:	250 Pittsburg	Bldg #	Grades Served:
School:	Pittsburg High School and Pittsburg Community Middle School	All	6-8, 9-12,NG

(A) Identify the barriers that must be overcome for each student to achieve grade level proficiency on assessments.

First and foremost, student mental health and trauma in the home need to be addressed by outside agencies. Until students' basic needs are met, we will struggle to achieve academic success. Students come to us already behind in grade-level standards, and you can trace that back to early childhood needs and services not being addressed. Therefore, mandatory pre-school would be helpful. Also, special education students need more support, and special education teachers need better training on meeting various student needs. Our school also has a growing population of ESOL students that would benefit from a newcomers program to help acclimate them to our school system. Smaller core class sizes would also benefit students. This would allow us to move to a more personalized learning model and better draft their Individualized Plans of Study for post-secondary success.

(B) Identify the budget actions that should be taken to address and remove those barriers.

Allocating budget to focus on prevention, detection, and intervention concerning trauma and mental health issues would be beneficial in managing and overcoming these barriers. The state must add funding to outside agencies to help solve this issue. The district adding counselors at the elementary levels would be helpful in early prevention, detection, and intervention. Allocating funds to make core classes and ESOL class sizes smaller would be impactful. It would also greatly benefit us if the state made pre-school mandatory and appropriately funded. We need to invest in professional development to keep our teachers up to date and ensure they have the skills to provide high-impact interventions when required.

(C) Identify the amount of time the board estimates it will take for each student to achieve grade level proficiency on the state assessments if the budget actions would be implemented.

If the state makes pre-school mandatory and funds it appropriately, significant gains could be made. If budget was allocated to more resources at the lower-levels, we would begin to see those academic gains at the secondary level within the next 5 - 10 years. Since there are so many variables that impact student achievement, such as socioeconomic status, social-emotional health, etc, it is difficult to predict how long it would take to see significant gains.