St. Louis Park Public Schools School Board Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, March 12, 2024 at 6:30 PM Regular Business Meeting Central Community Center, Room 21 6300 Walker Street St. Louis Park, Minnesota 55416

1.	CALL TO ORDER	
2.	LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	
3.	APPROVAL OF AGENDA	
4.	SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT	
5.	DISCUSSION ITEMS	
	A. Strategic Plan 2023-24 Priority Work Mid-Year Update	2
6.	ACTION AGENDA	
	A. Approval of Achievement and Integration Budget FY25	39
	B. 2024-25 School Calendar - Revised	44
7.	COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSMITTALS	
Q	ADIOURNMENT	

Priority Work Update

Dr. Becca Starr

Data Scientist and Title Coordinator



Mission Statement

St. Louis Park Schools sees, inspires, and empowers each learner to live their brilliance in an environment that centers student voice and experience to create ³ racially equitable learning that energizes and enhances the spirit of our community.



Priority 1: Culturally Relevant Literacy through the CARE Team Process

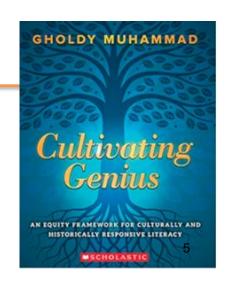
Sustain and deepen culturally relevant literacy development through the Collaborative Action Research for Equity (CARE) Team process.



We use Gholdy Muhammad's 5 pursuits as evidence of culturally relevant literacy:

- **Skills**: Content area, standards
- Identity: Learning about self and others
- Intellectualism: Building knowledge, critical thinking
- Criticality: Engaging student thinking about power, equity, and disruption oppression
- **Joy**: Joy of learning, elevation of the mind, energy, and spirit





CARE Team Work (Collaborative Action Research for Equity)





Cycle I: CARE Team Questions/Activities

Culturally relevant literacy as evidenced by the 5 pursuits in Cycle 1

Cycle 1 (71 CARE Team questions)	
Skills	31
Identity	19
Joy	8
Intellectualism	3
Criticality	0



-

Cycle I Questions

 Elementary teams almost exclusively focused on skills (reading)

Middle School teams focused on Identity

Evidence of Intellectualism in High School questions



Elementary Schools

- Focused on reading skills
- Implementing curricula (CCC, UFLI, Lexia etc.)
- Looking at curricula assessments as well as Fastbridge and MAP to measure reading outcomes

- Some examples of the other pursuits:
 - "Observing and celebrating with joy when we can apply a strategy to reading a new word!"
 - Explicitly incorporating 5 pursuits in daily lessons



Middle School: Identity

Middle School teams all wrote questions about "belonging". Each team gave students a pre-survey about their feelings of belonging. They then used the results to provide a variety of activities focused on increasing their sense of belonging.

Examples: Talk to focal students one-to-one about their survey responses, build relationships, allow them choice in how they showcase their brilliance (in ways most motivating to them), encourage students to share their cultural backgrounds, incorporate cultural identities into lessons



Middle School: Findings

- Student voice increases a sense of belonging and community
- Students value connection and representation to activities such as sharing cultural food, stories, and holidays
- Asking students to share their identities increases feelings of being seen and heard
- BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, People of Color) more engaged when paired to work with other BIPOC



High School

Intellectualism: "How can we more explicitly teach critical thinking skills to impact the student experience?"

- One group had students synthesize 2 texts while applying their own critical thinking and experiences to the texts
- Critical thinking needs to be explicitly taught and scaffolded

Identity: Multilingual students were engaged in activities/lessons designed around exploring identity.

St. Louis Park

ML CARE Team

Researchable Question: How is the ML experience improved when teachers incorporate ML students' interests, identities and strengths?

We each selected an activity from Ellevation (Develop Sociocultural Competence: Cultural Identity).

Guzman - My Life Map



Lorentz - Just Like Me

For lunch my mom and my sister are cooking Pabellon. While they are preparing the ingredients I will be watching them excitedly. My sister is preparing the came mecheda in a red cup to then cook it on the stove, while my mom prepares the beans and cold plantains and I keep seeing how everything is looking, smelling the meat. Then my mother and my sister together are preparing to make the rice. My mom pours the rice into a blue cup and begins to stir it with a white ladle. I am excited because the pabellon is almost ready. While my sister is serving the food, my mom is making fried plantains. I loved how all the food turned out.



Seeling - Identity Wheel



In conclusion, our recently arrived MLs were engaged and interested in exploring their identities through the projects. However, the needs of our experienced MLs are different from the needs of our newly arrived MLs.



Priority 2: Retention of Staff of Color

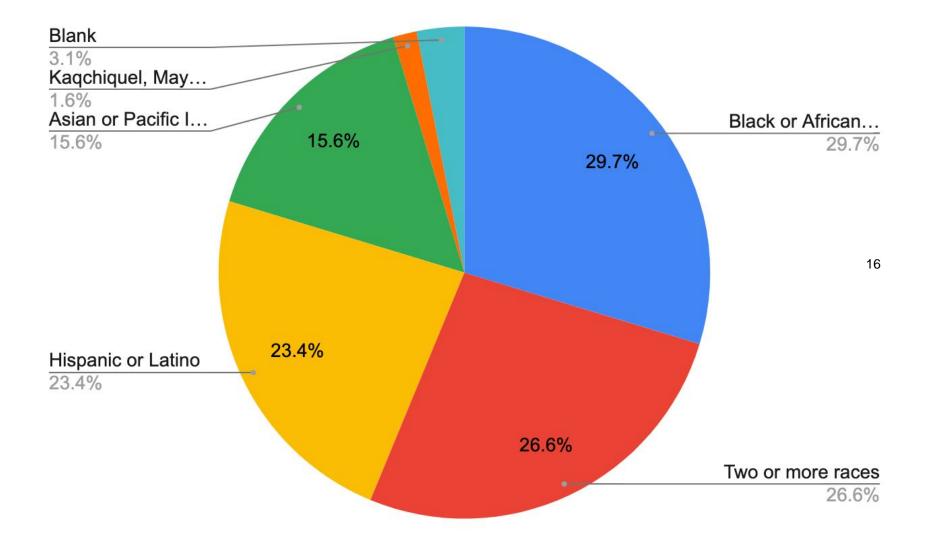
Develop a retention strategy that amplifies the voices, perspectives, and needs of staff of color leading to a safer, more empowered, and fulfilling culture of belonging focused on retaining racially-conscious staff.



Staff of Color Survey

- Sent to 175 staff of color
- 64 responses, response rate was 36.6%





Racial Affinity Groups

Prior to the pandemic, St. Louis Park Schools held some Racial Affinity Groups for staff of color to gather for discussion, camaraderie, and fun. These spaces were valuable to some, but were unable to accommodate all staff of color and were not sustained.

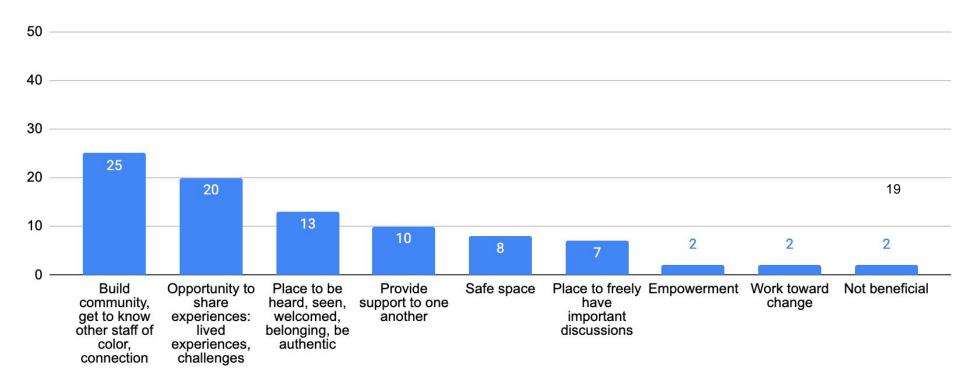
 This year, we asked staff of color about their interest/ability to attend an affinity group and what they would like to see in one



Current Perspectives on Affinity Groups (2023-2024)	Disagree or Strongly Disagree	Agree or Strongly Agree
I would value the opportunity to spend time with other staff of color	4.7%	84.4%
Racial Affinity Groups would be beneficial to the district as a whole	6.3%	78.18%
A Racial Affinity Group would benefit me in terms of learning and/or work	7.8%	70.3%
A Racial Affinity Group would benefit me in terms of learning and/or work	7.8%	70.3%
A Racial Affinity Group would benefit me in terms of camaraderie and/or fun	6.3%	68.8%
I would be interested in participating in a Racial Affinity Group	10.9%	68.8%



How could racial affinity groups benefit you and your peers?





How could racial affinity groups benefit the district?

"It also allows staff of color to lean deeper into relationship building with students of color - knowing we have supports built in to help us when this gets to be emotionally overwhelming."

"They help create a more welcoming and fair environment for everyone in the school community."

"Having Racial Affinity Groups empowers the district to address and tackle racial issues that affect our community. By engaging in dialogue and organizing collective action, these groups become platforms for 20 advocacy, education, and social change within our specific racial community and beyond. They can provide a powerful voice to raise awareness about racial injustices, challenge stereotypes, and promote inclusivity and equity in broader society."



Affinity Groups

- Largest challenge seen is the logistics of time, schedules, space
- Staff of Color would like to see a space for:
 - Discussions
 - Social Activities
 - Connection
 - Sharing food
 - A variety of times offered
 - An agenda or purpose for each meeting, to be productive



School Culture

Background: Focus groups with staff of color were conducted in 2016. Some findings from the focus groups were that staff of color see a lot of whiteness culture in the schools, a wondering about whether and how we talk about race with students, and feelings of being heard but not understood. In addition, staff of color found the Courageous Conversations protocol to be helpful.



Current Perspectives on School Culture (2023-2024)	Disagree or Strongly Disagree	Agree or Strongly Agree
Discussion of race and racial identity (through or outside of		
curriculum) has increased in classrooms in the past few years	9.4%	67.2%
Discussion of race and racial identity has increased in the		
workplace in the past few years	10.9%	65.6%
Awareness of the presence of whiteness at the sites has		
increased in the past few years	20.3%	51.6% ₂₃
Awareness of the presence of whiteness in the workplace has		
increased in the past few years	18.8%	54.7%
I can think of examples of whiteness being identified at our		
sites	10.9%	54.7%
Structures, behaviors, and beliefs rooted in whiteness have		
begun to be addressed in the past few years	21.9%	40.6%



- 42 responded to this question
- Only 3 cited examples of improvement:
 - One building leader in particular disrupts whiteness
 - More staff of color are being hired
 - Allowing for multiple ways of being in the classroom (movement, calling out answers, engagement based on student needs)
- One respondent said that staff are finding ways to address whiteness, but gave no specific examples

- The most frequent response (n = 13) was that awareness/conversation/discussion is increasing, but no real change is happening
- 4 said that whiteness is pervasive and not improving
- 4 said there is a lack of diversity in leadership



17 respondents gave some examples of whiteness in our schools

Said more than once:

- Leaders of color get resistance and blame
- Inaction of white leaders, avoiding discussions
- Only staff of color keep conversations about race going
- Teachers:
 - Afraid to talk to Black students or hold them accountable
 - Make assumptions based on race (e.g., in the hallway)
 - Give white students but not students of color chances to correct mistakes

"Leaders of color, along with a few white leaders, are often the ones that have to carry the weight of dismantling racist systems and then explaining it to our families, students and teachers."



Examples of whiteness

"I am also disheartened by the lack of conversations surrounding racial equity in the Special Education department. I feel that there needs to be more conversations being led by our Special Education administration to address the lack of cultural responsiveness in our white educators and how this may be leading to overidentification."

"I feel I will always be looked at through a microscope and judged off of my actions or past situations or incidents way worse than white males or my white colleagues."

"I do not see much evidence of diverse cultural perspectives in the contents I am teaching." "I see presence of whiteness in our school every time a person "forgets" I am half-Hispanic."

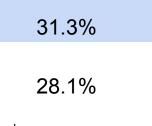


Current Experience at SLP Schools

- We asked Staff of Color about
 - How they feel at SLP schools
 - Their intention to stay
 - What they like about working here
 - The challenges of working here
 - What would help them feel included, safe, and/or empowered here at SLP schools



	Strongly	Strongly
Current Experience at SLP Schools	Disagree	Agree
I intend to continue to work in the district for the foreseeable future	7.8%	56.3%
I feel like I belong here at SLP schools	18.8%	56.3%
I feel empowered to be my authentic self at work	25.0%	54.7%
I feel safe at SLP schools	20.3%	50.0%
I feel empowered to speak my truth at work	31.3%	48.4%
I feel empowered to make anti-racist changes in SLP schools	26.6%	43.8%
District-wide professional development focused on racial equity has		
improved school/work for staff of color	31.3%	29.7%
I believe that staff of color feel more understood at work than we did a few		
years ago	28.1%	25.0%



Disagree or

Agree or

What do you like about working at SLP Schools? (n=54)

	Percent of responses	
Staff/colleagues/team	24.1%	
Mission Statement, commitment to racial equity	22.2%	
The students	16.7% ³⁰	
Community (close-knit, supportive, students/families, staff)	14.8%	
Diversity (students, teachers, families)	9.3%	
The size of the district	7.4%	
I can make a difference (live purpose as anti-racist leader, provide		
representation for students, share my culture/language)	7.4%	
Student-centered	5.6%	



"One of the aspects that I truly appreciate about working in the St. Louis Park School District is the sense of community that permeates throughout. It is a place where all members, including students, parents, and staff, come together to create a supportive and inclusive environment."

"I love how diverse SLP schools is! Among students, teachers and families, it is a beautiful community to be a part of."

"I think the majority of the staff (staff of color and white) are very kind and student centered. I believe that the majority of our staff also hold high academic expectations for kids. I also believe that our kids are amazing."



What do you find challenging about working at SLP schools? (n=51)

	Percent of responses
Environment: white spaces, no alike peers, feel like "token"	
Person of Color	21.6%
Talk without action	11.8% 32
Not feeling heard, seen, valued	9.8%
Teachers who resist change and are not held accountable	9.8%
Behavior issues/lack of consequences	7.8%
Not seeing change or change is slow	5.9%
Disconnect between district and site	5.9%



"I am unsure that we are truly "walking the walk" when it comes to enforcing our Racial Equity Strategic Plan. I believe that there is a lot of performative anti-racism occurring in our buildings. Being the only POC on my team, I feel that conversations surrounding racial equity can become dangerous very quickly. I am usually the only person on my team to advocate for students of color."

"Working in a mostly white environment. - Working where the staff does not proportionately represent the student/family population."

> "It feels anti-racism and education of white staff happens on the backs of staff of color"



What would help you to feel more included, safe, and/or empowered at

SLP schools? (n = 49)	
	Percent of
	responses
Increased diversity/representation in staff, leadership, curriculum,	

extracurricular activities

Less emotional labor

Feeling like my voice is heard and valued

Accountability for student behavior

Community/affinity groups, Employee Resource Group

Call out aggressions in the moment, accountability for white staff

HR/cabinet address negative experiences of POC, LGBTQ+, women

16.3%

12.2%

8.2%

6.1%

4.1%

2.0%

2.0%

Supervisor Support

	Disagree or Strongly Disagree	Agree or Strongly Agree
My supervisor is committed to the district mission and strategic plan	12.5%	68.8%
My supervisor creates a climate of inclusion and safety for staff of color	23.4%	35 60.9%
I believe other supervisors in the district are committed to the district mission and strategic plan	18.8%	39.1%
I believe other supervisors create a climate of inclusion and safety for staff of color	21.9%	32.8%
My supervisor works to support each employee in their unique needs in order to feel included, respected, and		
able to do their best work	23.4%	56.3%

What do you need from your supervisor to feel seen and heard?

Create space for conversations/check ins Hear our voices, listen, acknowledge Take action, educate self, interrupt See, value, support Follow through Acknowledge local/world events Be ok with conflict



"Acknowledgement district-wide and community-wide about how race shows up in every space for BIPOC educators. Our educators of color are hurting. Unpack the reality of racial equity work being implemented and how it lives on paper but is it being operationalized. Interruption and calling in of colleagues that are unwilling to do the work at their sites. The heavy lifting cannot be on the backs of Black and Brown individuals."



Next Steps

 This work will inform our thinking in identifying Priority Work for 2024-2025

 Collect second round of data on CARE Teams this Spring

Working with staff of color to develop a strategy for retention





Achievement and Integration Revenue FY 2025 Budget Worksheet

Use this workbook to list proposed expenditures of FY 2025 Achievement Integration (A&I) revenue. All expenditures must support strategies in your district's MDE-approved A&I plan. Each worksheet has a column where you will explain how each line item is intended to fund a strategy. Please use the instructions in the prior tab of this workbook. For details on budget requirements, see the A&I Budget Guide on the A&I webpage.

				39	
	St. Louis Park Public Schools		-		
District ISD Number:			-		
Superintendent:					
Partnering Districts:	Richfield Public Schools and Minneapolis Public Schools				
Fiscal and program staff needed for the budget t	should work together to complete this budget. Please list those staff roo be approved.	nembers be	low. Both will be contacted	d if changes or more detail is	
Program Staff:	Patrick Duffy	Fiscal Staff:	Patricia Magnuson		
	651-398-5402	Phone:	952-928-6009		
E-mail:	duffy.patrick@slpschools.org	Email:	magnuson.patricia@slps	chools.org	
If you have been notified	d by MDE that your district has one or more Racially Identifiable Schoo	<i>l</i> s, please lis	t those schools here:		
Find the amount of Achievement and Integration (A&I) revenue your district may be eligible to receive in FY 2025 and enter it below. See lines 12 and 13 in your district's Integration Revenue Reports listed online in the Minnesota Funding Reports. These are estimates based on enrollment projections and A&I funding formulas. These estimates will be adjusted to reflect actual FY25 enrollment. Directions for finding Integration Revenue reports online are posted to the A&I website. Total Initial Revenue (FIN 313) \$ 810,642.36					
CERTIFICATION STATEMENT We certify that the budget information submitted for our school district to the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) is an accurate and complete representation of the fiscal year 2025 Achievement & Integration budget as approved by the school board.					
	Board Approval Date		March 12, 2024		
School Board Chair	Colin Cox		_ Date _	March 12, 2024	
Superintendent	Kate Maguire		_ Date _	March 12, 2024	
This certification statemen	t is not required in legislation or by the Minnesota Department of Education.				
FOR MDE USE ONLY					
Approved Initial Revenue:	Approved In	centive Reve	nue:		
MDE Approval:	Date:				

roposed Budget Ratios 85.34%	District Name: S	St. Louis Park Public Schools Actual Expenditures	Actual Budget Ratios
		Actual Expenditures	Actual Budget Ratios
			Actual Budget Ratios
95 34%			
03.3470	expenditures	\$0.00	#DIV/0!
14.66%	Professional Development No more than 20% of total expenditures	\$0.00	#DIV/01
0.00%	Admin/Indirect No more than 10% of total expenditures	\$0.00	#DIV/0!
2	Total Revenue Expended:	\$0.00	
	Improvement Planning Expenditures	6%	#DIV/0!
		more than 20% of total expenditures Admin/Indirect No more than 10% of total expenditures 0.00% Total Revenue Expended: Improvement Planning Expenditures Districts must use up to 20	more than 20% of total expenditures \$0.00 Admin/Indirect No more than 10% of total expenditures \$0.00 Total Revenue Expended: \$0.00 Improvement Planning Expenditures

Amending Line Items To amend line items in this budget after it's been approved by MDE, strike the approved dollar amt and related budget narrative. Insert a row below the line you want to change (make sure the new row is above the total revenue line). Add a new dollar amt and narrative to the row you just added. Then highlight both lines with the color highlight function. Explain the change in the comments box at the bottom of the tab.

UFARS Corrections You do not need to submit an amended budget to MDE in order correct UFARS codes. Instead, make UFARS corrections when you submit your Actual Expenditure report. Add a note to explain the correction. See the A&I Gudget Guide for more details on when to amend your MDE-approved budget.

Comments:		
		Α.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

FY 2025 Achievement and Integration Budget Direct Student Service Costs

St. Louis Park Public Schools

List proposed FIN 313 expenditures for Direct Student Services below. At least 80% of a district's proposed expenditures must be used for strategies in a district's MDE-approved A&I plan that provide direct services to students. Read the A&I Budget Guide on the MDE website for details. 80% Direct Services to Students

UFARS Title	UFARS Code Required				Budgeted Amount	Actual Amt	Budget Narrative - Which strategy in your A&I plan does each line item support and how?	ı does each	line item support and how?
Add the UFARS Code title from the UFARS manual to provide a short hand description of proposed expenditures.	ORG	PROG	E N	OBJ	List the total amount budgeted for this line item.	Resubmit this budget with actual FY25 expenditures by 12/1/25.	Use this column to describe what will be purchased to implement your A&I strategies, i.e. food, transportation, salary costs, etc. Your brief description should make it clear how the expenditure will help implement the strategy. Do not copy the strategy description from your plan.	Goal #	Strategy # and Name
IB Diploma Program Teacher High School (1.0)	005/303	211	313	140	\$67,915.00		IB Program Instruction to support differentiated instruction and targeted interventions	1,2,3	1-IB Programming
				200's	\$16,978.75		Benefits for above	1,2,3	1-IB Programming
IB Middle Years Program Teacher Middle School (0.6)	005/302	211	313	140	\$55,143.60		IB Program Instruction to support differentiated	1,2,3	1-IB Programming
				200's	\$13,785.90		Benefits for above	1,2,3	1-IB Programming
1B Primary Years Program Teacher Elementary (1.0)	005/101,106,107,108	203	313	140	\$109,908.00		IB Program Instruction to support differentiated	1,2,3	1-IB Programming
				200's	\$27,477.00		Benefits for above	1,2,3	1-IB Programming
High Achievement Teacher High School (SOAR) (1.0)	303	211	313	140	\$102,412.00		IB Program Instruction to support differentiated	1,2,3	1-IB Programming
				200's	\$25,603.00		Benefits for above	1,2,3	1-IB Programming
Keystone Teachers Middle School	302	211	313	140	\$156,648.00		Keystone teacher to provide differentiated	2	5-Keystone Development
				200's	\$39,162.00		Benefits for above	2	5-Keystone Development
Elementary Math and Literacy Support Instructional	005/101,106,107,108	201	313	143	\$53,000.00		Instructional assistants to support components of culturally	1	2-Grade k-1 Instructional
			313	200's	\$16,579.14		Benefits for above	1	2-Grade k-1 Instructional
			313						
			313						
			313						
			313						
			313						
			313						
			313						
			313						
FIN 313 TOTAL		STATE OF THE PARTY	NO STATE OF THE PARTY OF THE PA		\$684.612.39	00:0\$			

Insert lines above the FIN 313 TOTAL line to include those dollar amounts in proposed and approved revenue totals.
Improvement Funding. Copy line items for improvement strategies and paste them into the Direct Student Services section of the Improvement Planning tab.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

FY 2025 Achievement and Integration Budget Direct Student Service Costs to Reduce Furnilment Disparities

Direct Student Service Costs to Reduce Enrollment Disparities

District Name: | St. Louis Park Public Schools

List proposed FIN 318 expenditures for Direct Student Services below. At least 80% of a district's proposed expenditures must be used for strategies included in the district's MDE-approved A&I plan which provide direct services to students. Incentive revenue may be used to fund strategies that decrease racial and economic enrollment disparities in classes, schools, some programs, or between districts. Read the A&I Budget Guide on the MDE website for details. 80% Direct Services to Students

UFARS Title	UFARS Code Required				Budgeted Amount	Actual Amount	Budget Narrative - Which strategy in your A&I plan does each line item support and how?	oes each line	item support and how?
Add the UFARS Code title from the UFARS manual to provide a short hand description of proposed expenditures.	ORG	PROG	Z Z	OBJ	List the total amount budgeted for this line item.	Resubmit form with actual FY25 expenditures by 12/1/25.	Use this column to describe what will be purchased to implement your A&I strategies, i.e. food, transportation, salary costs, etc. Your brief description should make it clear how the expenditure will help implement the strategy. Do not copy the strategy description from your plan.	Goal #	Strategy # and Name
Elementary Math and Literacy	005/101,106,107,108	201	318	143	\$38,000.00		Instructional Support for Math and Literacy in K-5		
			318	200's	\$11,030.00				
			318						
			318						
			318						
			318						
			318						
FIN 318 TOTAL			Distriction of		\$49,030.00	\$0.00			

Insert lines **above** the FIN 318 TOTAL line to include those dollar amounts in proposed and approved revenue totals.

Improvement Funding Copy line items for improvement strategies and paste them into the Direct Student Services section of the Improvement Planning tab.

Comments:



283

FY 2025 Achievement and Integration Budget Professional Development Costs

St. Louis Park Public Schools

List all proposed FIN 313 expenditures for professional development below. No more than 20% of this budget's total revenue may be proposed or used for these costs. All training funded through this budget must directly support strategies in a district's MDE-approved A&I plan. Read the A&I Budget Guide on the MDE website for details. 20% Professional Development

UFARS Title	UFAF	UFARS Code Required	quired		Budgeted Amount	Actual Amount	Budget Narrative - Which strategy in your A&I plan does each line item support and how?	oes each lir	ie item support and how?
Add the UFARS Code title from the UFARS manual to provide a short hand description of proposed expenditures.	ORG	PROG	Z Z	OBJ	List the total amount budgeted for this line item.		Neesubmit form with actual implement your A&I strategies, i.e. food, transportation, salary costs, etc. Your brief description should make it clear how the expenditure will implement the strategy. Do not copy the strategy description from your plan.	Goal#	Strategy # and Name
Prof. Devellopment (SOAR, CRP, 005 203/211	900	203/211	313 366	366	\$126,000.00		Registration, training, materials, subs, consultants, etc. 1, 2, and 3 Culturally Relevant	1, 2, and	3 Culturally Relevant
			313						
			313						
			313						
			313						
FIN 313 TOTAL					\$126.000.00	\$0.00			

IFIN 313 ICHA.
Add lines above the FIN 313 TOTAL line to include those dollar amounts in proposed and approved revenue totals.

Improvement Funding Copy line items for improvement strategies and paste them into the Professional Development section of the Improvement Planning tab.

Comments:

