Opportunity Funding

For more information contact:
Susan S. Bunting, Ed.D.
Secretary of Education
susan.bunting@doe.k12.de.us

Funding Period: Fiscal Year 2020
Purpose: The Opportunity Funding initiative creates a three-year weighted funding program across the state. Delaware is currently one of only a handful of states without additional funding for English learners (ELs) and/or low-income students (low-income).

Allocation Method: Local education agencies (LEAs) will receive $500 per EL and $300 per low-income student. Funding shall be made available to LEAs upon the passage of the FY20 budget in early July so they may begin to hire staff, procure instructional materials, execute contracts for services, and plan for the upcoming school year. LEAs may use this funding for 100 percent of staff costs, including, but not limited to, reading specialists, math specialists, school counselors, school social workers, school psychologists, and other personnel dedicated to initiatives such as trauma-informed practices.

Accountability: LEAs will be held accountable to ensure funds are used to improve outcomes for low-income and EL students. Districts and charters will work with Secretary Bunting to set goals at the beginning of the school year, participate in a mid-year progress review, and then evaluate summative performance data during their end of school year conference. Community accountability will be provided in a summit to highlight best practices, in an annual report, and in spotlights showing program successes and challenges across the state.

Metrics: Districts and charters will set goals to reduce the gap between English learners’, low-income students’, and the overall student population’s baseline performance rates and 100 percent by half, thus reducing students’ non-proficiency by 50 percent.

In addition to the accountability measure data, the Delaware Department of Education (DDOE) will provide support by offering

- Toolkits on evidence-based best practices for improving outcomes for EL and low-income students.
- Guidance for selecting high quality instructional materials.
- Technical support enabling LEAs to take a comprehensive look at their funding streams in order to maximize and coordinate them.
- Professional learning provided by content experts.
- Sharing best practices in a variety of ways including regular meetings with curriculum directors, chiefs/principals, social media and presentations.

DDOE will use a third party to also evaluate

- The effectiveness of funds in improving outcomes for EL and low-income students.
- The successes and challenges/shortcomings of the program, including recommendations for future enhancements.

Results from the first year of funding will be finalized in August 2020. Subsequently, DDOE will host a summit in early fall to share the report and best practices. In late fall 2020, the third-party evaluation will be complete and results will be posted after districts and charters verify them.
Delaware Department of Education
Opportunity Funding Form
2019-2020 School Year

Application deadline: June 30, 2019

School Information

DISTRICT/CHARTER NAME:
Kuumba Academy Charter School
DISTRICT/CHARTER STREET ADDRESS:
1200 N French St
CITY:
Wilmington DE
ZIP CODE:
19801

Contact Information

CONTACT NAME:
Sally Maldonado
CONTACT PHONE NUMBER:
302-660-4750
CONTACT EMAIL ADDRESS:
smaldonado@kacsde.org

Overall Summary

Provide an overall summary of how the Opportunity Funding will be used to improve outcomes for English learners and low-income students in your district or charter school.

Include an explanation of how the work will impact each target population as well as selecting the plan.

The funds provided through this FY20 opportunity grant will be used to support Teri Riggs, Guidance Counselor, and Genelle Freeman, Dean of Students.

The Target Population for this project is all Kuumba students, grades K-8, and their families, who support them. Kuumba Academy serves 670 students, in grades K-8. Kuumba's students, all of whom are "at-risk", face incredible challenges on a regular basis, and require additional supports beyond the academic program to help them overcome the barriers that may impede their ability to reach their highest potential. The vast majority of Kuumba's population faces exposure to trauma on a daily basis. 82% of our students come from the zip codes 19801, 19802, 19805, and 19720. 88% of our students come from low-income families. 92% are African American and 7% are Hispanic.

The goal of this project is to provide trauma informed supports and integrated student services for all of our students, in order to achieve higher academic and behavioral outcomes. Sadly, as is the nature of our demographic, almost all of our students experience trauma in some form, which has an impact on their emotional well being, the way they behave and interact with people in the school, and their academics.

Kuumba has a significant need for academic, behavioral, and social/emotional supports. Additionally, there is a great need for an increase in family involvement, which will help provide a key element of support for our students, and will result in an improvement in school culture and academic outcomes.

These funds will enable the following to take place this school year:

Application deadline: June 30, 2019
Investment and Goals

Provide additional detail about the plan in the chart below by listing each Opportunity Funding investment with its associated cost and proposed impact. For each investment, include baseline data and numeric targets to measure impact. A state budget sheet will be completed by the district after the plan has been approved.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Investment</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Proposed Impact</th>
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<tr>
<td>100% Full Time Guidance Counselor plus $29,929 in OECs</td>
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<td>250 Unduplicated students will benefit from support from Guil</td>
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<td>Full Time Dean of Students at 34%</td>
<td>34% of $85,490</td>
<td>Will reduce suspensions by 20%</td>
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Application deadline: June 30, 2019

Assurances and Signatures

The applicant assures that:

As the chief school officer of the district or charter school; including the indicated school, I am authorized to submit for the funds identified in this form. I am also authorized to obligate the district or charter school to conduct any activity approved under this form in accordance with all applicable state requirements, including statutory and regulatory requirements, and program specific requirements. The information contained in it is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. By submitting this form, I acknowledge that I understand and agree to abide by all applicable requirements.

Chief School Officer: Sally Maldonado

Signature: __________________________ Date: ______________________

As the business manager of the district or charter school; including the indicated school, I am authorized to submit the budget and financial information contained in this form. I have read this form and reviewed the financial information contained in this form. The information contained in this form is true