

# 444 Little River State Assessment Review for Budget Considerations

## 444 Little River District Summary

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

There are always a number of challenges that should be considered when evaluating student success in a district. Some of the key barriers that impact our School District include, but are not limited to:

- Difficulty in scheduling and finding more time to provide teacher/staff collaboration that would support improved student learning
- Declining enrollment that reduces funding and access to additional services and supports for students
- Difficulty in retaining and attracting highly qualified teachers and replacing teachers as they retire
- Special Education funding shortfall has limited supports of our highest need students
- High levels or an increase in absenteeism among our student population
- An increasing level of social emotional challenges and needs of students

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

Our students face a growing number of barriers to success and our district continually works to support them. Current budget constraints that impact our ability to successfully remove barriers for our students include:

- Increased salary to recruit and retain high quality certified and classified staff
- Additional staff members hired to meet the individual learning and SEL needs of all students
- Increased funding and time for staff development
- Increased funding to expand extended school year and summer school programs for students
- Maintain low teacher/pupil ratio for greater individualized instruction

### **(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.**

We measure growth each year and document in our KESA plans our success on a variety of student success factors. We emphasize growth and strive to lead the world in the success of each student. Although we do this and are proud of the work we do, many factors make it impossible to

estimate a time that every student will achieve a definition of grade level proficiency. Such factors include:

- While assessment scores are one measure, our district does not believe that student assessment scores should be the sole measure of student proficiency
- Similar to how other professionals, such as doctors, lawyers, etc, cannot ensure 100% success due to a variety of factors and obstacles, we will be unable to achieve 100% proficiency

## Windom Elementary Building State Assessment Review

**District:** 444 Little River

**School:** Windom Elementary

**Building Number:** 6734

**Grades Served:** PrK-6th

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

Our teachers, students, and families face a number of challenges in ensuring student proficiency on assessments. Some of those challenges at this school include:

- Difficulty in scheduling and finding more time to provide teacher/staff collaboration that would support improved student learning
- Declining enrollment that reduces funding and access to additional services and supports for students
- Difficulty in retaining and attracting highly qualified teachers and replacing teachers as they retire
- Special Education funding shortfall has limited supports of our highest need students
- An increasing level of social emotional challenges and needs of students
- We believe using one assessment score is not an accurate measure of student success, especially because assessments are written in a way to avoid 100% success for every assessment participant.

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

Our students face a growing number of barriers to success and this school continually works to support them. Current budget constraints that impact our ability to successfully remove barriers for our students include:

- Increased salary to recruit and retain high quality certified and classified staff
- Additional staff members hired to meet the individual learning and SEL needs of all students
- Increased funding and time for staff development
- Increased funding to expand extended school year and summer school programs for students

**(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.**

We measure growth each year and document in our KESA plans our success on a variety of student success factors. We emphasize growth and strive to lead the world in the success of each student. Although we do this and are proud of the work we do, many factors make it impossible to estimate a time that every student will achieve a definition of grade level proficiency. Such factors include:

- Our ever-changing student population brings a varying degree of cognitive abilities and disabilities which precludes us from being able to guarantee a date when all students will meet a singular level of proficiency.

# Little River High School Building State Assessment Review

**District:** 444 Little River

**School:** Little River High School

**Building Number:** 6728

**Grades Served:** 9th-12th

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

Our teachers, students, and families face a number of challenges in ensuring student proficiency on assessments. Some of those challenges at this school include:

- Difficulty in scheduling and finding more time to provide teacher/staff collaboration that would support improved student learning
- Declining enrollment that reduces funding and access to additional services and supports for students
- Difficulty in retaining and attracting highly qualified teachers and replacing teachers as they retire
- Special Education funding shortfall has limited supports of our highest need students
- High levels or an increase in absenteeism among our student population
- It is difficult to encourage a student's highest performance on an assessment that does not impact their future.
- We believe using one assessment score is not an accurate measure of student success, especially because assessments are written in a way to avoid 100% success for every assessment participant.

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

This school faces a number of budget challenges when determining how to allocate funds to best meet the needs of our students. Given our population, the following budget considerations could have the biggest impact on student achievement.

- Increased salary to recruit and retain high quality certified and classified staff
- Additional staff members hired to meet the individual learning and SEL needs of all students
- Increased funding and time for staff development
- Increased funding to expand extended school year and summer school programs for students
- Allocating budget to focus on prevention, detection and intervention concerning trauma and mental health issues

**(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.**

While our board of education, administration, teachers and classified staff work tirelessly to meet the academic and social emotional needs of all of our students, too many factors come into play that do not allow us to accurately assess when all students will be at a certain level. Some of those factors include:

- Many of the factors that affect student success, such as trauma, poverty, mental health and student disabilities, are out of the local board's control, so giving a time estimate on things that consistently change, or are under the control of other agencies, is not a realistic practice of a local school board.

# Little River Jr. High School Building State Assessment Review

**District:** 444 Little River

**School:** Little River Jr. High School

**Building Number:** 6726

**Grades Served:** 7th-8th

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

Our teachers, students, and families face a number of challenges in ensuring student proficiency on assessments. Some of those challenges at this school include:

- Difficulty in scheduling and finding more time to provide teacher/staff collaboration that would support improved student learning
- Declining enrollment that reduces funding and access to additional services and supports for students
- Difficulty in retaining and attracting highly qualified teachers and replacing teachers as they retire
- Special Education funding shortfall has limited supports of our highest need students
- High levels or an increase in absenteeism among our student population
- It is difficult to encourage a student's highest performance on an assessment that does not impact their future.
- We believe using one assessment score is not an accurate measure of student success, especially because assessments are written in a way to avoid 100% success for every assessment participant.

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

Our students face a growing number of barriers to success and this school continually works to support them. Current budget constraints that impact our ability to successfully remove barriers for our students include:

- Increased salary to recruit and retain high quality certified and classified staff
- Additional staff members hired to meet the individual learning and SEL needs of all students
- Increased funding and time for staff development
- Increased funding to expand extended school year and summer school programs for students
- Allocating budget to focus on prevention, detection and intervention concerning trauma and mental health issues

**(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.**

We measure growth each year and document in our KESA plans our success on a variety of student success factors. We emphasize growth and strive to lead the world in the success of each student. Although we do this and are proud of the work we do, many factors make it impossible to estimate a time that every student will achieve a definition of grade level proficiency. Such factors include:

- Many of the factors that affect student success, such as trauma, poverty, mental health and student disabilities, are out of the local board's control, so giving a time estimate on things that consistently change, or are under the control of other agencies, is not a realistic practice of a local school board.

# Building State Assessment Review

**District:** 444 Little River

**School:**

**Building Number:**

**Grades Served:**

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

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

**(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.**