



RE-1 Valley School District  
Special Education Department  
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## Use of Funds Plan

Since the return to in-person learning, RE-1 Valley has seen an increase in students that are experiencing an increase in academic, social, emotional and mental health needs. Due to this increase in student needs, the district has noticed an increase in students that are being referred to MTSS or for a Special Education evaluation. Upon reviewing the data, appropriate interventions and support services will be developed and the student will immediately be engaged in the adequate services to meet their individual needs. The District uses IXL, PALs, NWEA, WIDA, as well as classroom observation and locally developed assessments to determine academic levels of students. Data is then disaggregated, and students are identified for supplemental services. Although all students receive comprehensive assessments and data is reviewed on individual student levels, the district focuses additional attention on students who are at risk of experiencing greater risk of learning loss.

The evidence-based interventions were selected to respond to identify social emotional and mental health needs by teaching students how to identify emotions and begin to build coping strategies to add to their toolbox of resources. We focused on research based approaches to address not only language development, reading, and math academic skills but social emotional and mental health skills. Those interventions are detailed in the budget. We know that the greatest impact to student learning is direct, targeted instruction given by a highly qualified provider. Direct instruction being the most impactful variable on a student's academic achievement is followed by a curriculum that is viable and delivered with fidelity. The District will utilize not only the learning loss set aside for providing supplemental interventions, but will also dedicate a large portion of the entire funds to extended and school year instruction. The District will hire additional staff to provide supplemental interventions to provide before and after school services, along with summer school. The District is small enough that we can ensure very quick response to the needs of students, and we can implement assessments and screeners quickly to identify needs early and prevent any delay in addressing the needs of all students. This will be done through the hiring of additional staff that is trained to work with students that have social, emotional or academic needs.