



## Gresham-Barlow School District No. 10Jt

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### 2020-21 Superintendent's Budget Message

The Gresham-Barlow School District budget message is designed to summarize the proposed budget. In developing this budget, the school district maintained a focus on its mission, "Inspire and Empower Each Student." At the publishing of this document, a new economic forecast and State School Fund estimate were not yet available. Accordingly, this budget has been built on information in the [February 26, 2020 State School Fund estimate](#).

The 2019-2021 biennial budget for the State School fund is \$9.0 billion; the legislature had not amended the budget as of the publish date of this document. This funding level may change depending on economic factors relating to the COVID-19 health crisis. The budget proposed by staff allows the District to continue pursuit of its Continuous Improvement Plan (CIP) while maintaining an ending fund balance in excess of the minimum 5 percent required by [Board Policy DBDB](#).

The COVID-19 pandemic resulted in an executive order by Governor Kate Brown to close school buildings in mid-March through the rest of the 2019-2020 school year. During this time, schools in the Gresham-Barlow School District have continued to provide meals to students- breakfast and lunch- serving them at specific school sites and using buses to deliver meals to certain neighborhoods. The District also transitioned to [Distance Learning for All](#) (DLA). This learning program is based on guidelines published by the Oregon Department of Education.

At the time of the publish date of this document, there are many unknowns to the COVID-19 recovery and the District is actively preparing for a wide range of different reopening scenarios. The District has established a framework to allow for rapid response planning and execution during this time of uncertainty. The framework allows for collaboration between a variety of teams to include a small senior group responsible for strategic direction, cross-functional teams designed to troubleshoot specific challenges (e.g. - DLA, student learning gaps, social-emotional health and safety, cost control, safety and health, etc.) and to assess our reopening readiness, along with professional learning communities focused on aligning priorities and providing feedback on best practices, IT training needs, and student/staff wellness.

The District's progress, effectiveness, and the resources available to staff and students will be dependent upon three factors - state and national governmental actions; health and safety projections; and the state and national economic recovery. Nonetheless, the proposed budget is aligned with the mission, vision, and goals outlined by the Board of Directors. The school board, along with the administrative team, has a fiduciary responsibility that is inclusive of equitable access and opportunities for each student; a variety of resources; community partnerships; sustained transparency, and a persistent level of integrity.

### School Improvement Funding

The 2020-21 proposed budget includes additional school improvement funds anticipated as a result of the [Student Success Act](#). The administration has worked with the school board, staff, students, and community to finalize the district's strategic investments. All anticipated revenues and expenditures related to this funding can be found in sub-fund 235. As with all budgeted items, staff will not commence spending in this area until a guarantee of funding is made by the State.

### Summary of Budget Modifications

Due to the emerging and potentially unparalleled funding constraints at the national, state, and local level - the District will carefully and cautiously reevaluate each prioritized investment area before moving forward with implementation plans. Below is a summary of the prioritized investments (not in ranking order) areas that are included in the 2020-2021 proposed budget.

#### Investment 1: Continuum of Evidence-Base Supports

- K-2 science textbooks and digital adoption
- High School Social Science adoption purchases
- Professional learning for updated curriculum adoptions

#### Investment 2: Data-Based Problem Solving

- Early-warning database and platform system, including SEL survey system
- Professional Learning Communities and MTSS Teaming
- Professional learning for data-driven instructional practices

#### Investment 3: Teaching and Learning Environments

- Launch of a second school with dual language kindergarten classroom and adding first grade
- Continued Advancement via Individual Determination (AVID) programming in elementary, middle, and high schools
- Blended learning platform
- STREAM lab equipment for middle schools

#### Investment 4: Family, School, and Community Partners

- Development of six career pathways with local community partners
- Additional funding for student mental-health community partnerships

Informed by the District's four prioritized areas of investment, the 2020-2021 budget has been designed to support the District's efforts to achieve its mission and vision, which is to inspire and empower each student to become culturally responsive graduates, who will thrive in an ever-changing global community.

Yours in education,

