

Vernonia SD School Board Report

TOPIC: 2023-27 VSD Strategic Plan and Integrated Application

SUMMARY:

The district must submit an integrated application for aligned program funding in March 2023 that includes Student Investment Account (SIA), High School Success (HSS/M98), Early Indicator and Intervention Systems (EIS), and Career and Technical Education (CTE). The integrated application, and programs require the district to have a strategic plan, community engagement, and longitudinal performance growth targets (LPGTs).

BOARD ACTION:

February 9, 2023: Public presentation, first read, and feedback

March 9, 2023: Public presentation and approval

March 9, 2023, School Board Integrated Guidance Approval

- 8.5 **Integrated Guidance:** Joanie Jones moved to approve the Integrated Guidance document as presented. Amy Cieloha seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously

BACKGROUND:

Integrated Guidance

On February 8, 2022, the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) released [Aligning for Student Success: Integrated Guidance for Six ODE Initiatives](#) to create efficiency for districts and communities. ODE is operationally integrating six programs with similar requirements into one application for funding and a unified progress monitoring system. The programs include:

- High School Success (HSS)
- Student Investment Account (SIA)
- Career and Technical Education - Perkins V (CTE)
- Continuous Improvement Planning (CIP)
- Every Day Matters (EDM)
- Early Indicator and Intervention Systems (EIS)

Integration is possible for these six programs because of their commonalities. The Integrated Application combines what has historically been separate, so schools and districts can leverage multiple strategies and funding sources to implement more cohesive plans that positively impact students. Moving forward, the outcomes and strategies for each initiative will come together into a single strategic plan that supports the common goals. The aim is to build these goals into the entire educational system to embed the work at all levels and ensure sustainability.

In 2019, Vernonia School District developed a long-range plan that met the District Continuous Improvement Plan requirements and the new SIA grant. This year, the district has built on that work and further aligned the district's strategic investments in one plan that includes High School Success, CTE, and EIS.

Needs Assessment

Starting in the fall, staff met regularly to analyze multiple data measures including demographics, student learning, perception, and school processes focused on the Continuous Improvement Plan (CIP). Using the District's Equity Lens embedded in analysis tools, the needs assessment process resulted in the following areas of need:

1. Increase academic achievement & growth in ELA and math grades 3-8, 11.
2. Increase student attendance rates in grades K-12.
3. Expanded support for student behavioral and mental health needs, including social-emotional learning in grades K-12.
4. Reduce off-task behavior incidents that impact engagement and achievement.
5. Increased access and programming options to CTE programs of study for all student groups grades 8-12.
6. Increase college and career readiness options.
7. Develop professional development opportunities for staff to meet long-term strategic plan goals.

Community Engagement

To ensure the updated strategic plan and Integrated Application reflect the needs and interests of the broader Vernonia School District Community and focal groups, the District leveraged engagement practices from the 2019 SIA grant cycle and deepened opportunities for input.

These practices include

- Climate surveys for students in grades 3-12, families, and staff (Google Form and Thought exchange.)
- Community-wide surveys focused on gathering input and feedback from community members, volunteers, local businesses, and regional education partner organizations (Google Form and Thought exchange.).
- District Leadership team meetings for staff to connect with the superintendent.
- Intentional, targeted 1:1 conversations between administrators and students/families within the focal groups to understand progress and areas of opportunity.
- Focus groups with focal group students and families.
- Focused staff and Data Team meetings to intentionally engage on strategic priorities and opportunities for improvement for all students.
- Intentional conversations in regular, ongoing meetings with community and education partners focused on increasing family engagement and meeting longitudinal growth targets.

In 2022, the District leveraged the established community engagement strategies and expanded opportunities for staff to provide input. The VSD staff and district leadership team was specifically engaged early in the process with a Thought Exchange and Google survey, literature, and presentations explaining the integrated application and strategic plan process. Then in the fall, the district prioritized staff engagement at an all-staff meeting where staff provided real-time feedback and areas for additional support to principals.

The District's efforts are summarized in the [Integrated Guidance Plan](#)

Strategic Plan.

To help the district continue making progress, prioritize important initiatives, and address education equity, VSD has implemented a strategic planning process. The current strategic plan spanned 2019-2022 and helped the district navigate the COVID-19 pandemic while achieving SIA and other goals. The current draft strategic plan will cover 2023-2027 and includes aligned strategies from the Integrated Application and program. This plan was developed using the staff needs assessment and community engagement process inputs.

The plan is the overarching strategic intention for VSD over the next four years and can be used to inform budgets, staffing, relationships, and systems. There are eight goals, with five supporting programs in the Integrated Application. Goals D, G, and H center on student well-being (SEL), CTE/College and Career Readiness, and Staff Professional Development. Some strategies within the plan are aspirational and will need continued review with the Equity Lens as budget decisions are made. However, if the district navigates the next four years with attention to the strategies named in this plan, Vernonia students are more likely to thrive.

Integrated Application

Within the strategic plan, Vernonia identified strategies aligned with the programs in the Integrated Application. Each strategy is tied to specific programmatic investments outlined below. VSD is allocated **\$724,647.37** in the Integrated Application for the first year of the 2023-25 biennium.

Program and Aligned Strategies	Allocation and Investments
Student Investment Account (SIA)	\$535,564.96
Administrative costs	\$23,820.96
2.0 FTE Instructional assistants-Instructional support general education	\$102,000
Textbook Adoption, 6-8	\$10,000
Textbook adoption high school, 9-12	\$36,800
1.0 FTE Math Teacher, 9-12	\$67,000
1.0 FTE High School Advanced math teacher	\$73,000
1.0 FTE VFA secretary and instructional assistant	\$56,944
Avid Program grades 9-12	\$8000
Community Engagement K-12	\$5000
1.0 FTE 8-12 Engineering Teacher	\$83,000
ACT and PSAT/SAT testing	\$5000
Technology Resources 1:1 Technology and Licensures	\$10,000
Educational Learning Supplies and Materials	\$5000
CTE Supplies and Modernization Projects Program Curriculum and Student Licenses CTE Professional Development	\$30,000
Oregon Rural Schools Network- Administrative training and instructional professional development professional	\$20,000

development	
Early Indicator and Intervention Systems (EIS)	\$1,734.72
Oregon Data Suite	\$1,734.72
High School Success (HSS)	\$198,735.53
1.0 FTE Graduate coach-college and career readiness	\$116,818.53
1.0 FTE Welding /Manufacturing teacher	\$75,435.00
8th grade dropout prevention	\$1000
8th grade CTE programming	\$1000
Administrative programming costs	\$4482.00

NEXT STEPS:

The VSD board and community has provided feedback on the Integrated Application draft (1st reading), which will be taken into account as the plan is finalized on March 9th.

In early March, ODE updated Student Group Data for Combined Focal Groups, which the district updated the “Gap” **Longitudinal Performance Growth Targets (LPGTs.)** The LPGTs are required for funding as part of the formalized grant agreement with ODE. The LPGTs have a developed baseline and growth targets for student performance for the following metrics:

- 3rd-grade reading
- Regular attendance
- 9th-grade on track
- 4-year graduation rates
- 5-year completion rates.

The district has included updated LPGTs with the application for the board to review on March 9, 2023, when the board is scheduled to approve the Integrated Application and budget.

Over the summer, ODE will finalize the grant agreement and begin the implementation and monitoring process.

Going forward, the district may use a dashboard to monitor progress on strategies not included in the Integrated application.

1. Integrated Planning Tool
 - a. [Tiered Planning](#)

Jim Helmen
 Vernonia School District Superintendent