California Department of Education

Executive Office

SBE-002 (REV. 11/2017)

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# **MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** April 12, 2022

**TO:** MEMBERS, State Board of Education

**FROM:** TONY THURMOND, State Superintendent of Public Instruction

**SUBJECT:** Low-Performing Students Block Grant November 2021 Reporting

## Summary of Key Issues

On June 27, 2018, Governor Brown signed Assembly Bill 1808 into law, adding California *Education Code* (*EC*) Section 41570, which established a one-time, $300 million Low-Performing Students Block Grant (LPSBG) in the 2018–19 fiscal year. The LPSBG was intended to provide California’s low-performing students with additional supports to increase their academic achievement as defined in *EC* Section 41570(d). LPSBG funds were available for expenditure or encumbrance through the 2020–21 fiscal year.

For the purposes of this grant, “low-performing students” met the following criteria as outlined in *EC* Section 41570(d):

1. The pupil did not meet academic achievement standards based on the most recently available results of the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress, established by Article 4 (commencing with Section 60640) of Chapter 5 of Part 33 of Division 4, in any of the following ways:
2. The pupil did not meet the achievement standard, also referred to as “level 1,” in both English language arts and mathematics.
3. The pupil did not meet the achievement standard, also referred to as “level 1,” in either English language arts or mathematics, and nearly met the achievement standard, also referred to as “level 2,” in the other subject.
4. The pupil did not meet the achievement standard, also referred to as “level 1,” in either English language arts or mathematics, and did not have a valid score for the other subject.
5. The pupil was not an unduplicated pupil, as defined in Section 42238.02, for the same school year used as the basis for the performance results.
6. The pupil was not a pupil identified for special education services pursuant to the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 *United States Code* Section 1400 et seq.), for the same school year used as the basis for the performance results.

EC Section 41570(e–f) required local educational agencies (LEAs) to use LPSBG funds for evidence-based services for the pupils identified that directly supported pupil academic achievement, including, but not limited to, professional development activities for certificated staff, instructional materials, or additional supports for pupils.

As a condition of receiving LPSBG funds, LEAs were required to develop a plan describing how the funds will increase or improve evidence-based services for the pupils identified pursuant to EC Section 41570(d) to accelerate increases in academic achievement, and how the effectiveness of the services will be measured.

The LEA plan was required to include information regarding how the services aligned with and were described in the school district’s Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP), the county superintendent of schools’ LCAP, or the charter school’s LCAP, as applicable. To ensure community and stakeholder input, the plan was required to be discussed and adopted at a regularly scheduled meeting of the governing board of the school district, the county board of education, or the governing body of the charter school. However, LEAs were not required to submit the plan to the California Department of Education (CDE) or receive prior approval of the LPSBG plan or budgets from the CDE.

LEAs that received LPSBG funds were required to submit a report to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction (SSPI) by March 1, 2019, regarding the adopted plan to use the grant funds to increase the academic performance of pupils identified pursuant to EC Section 41570(d). And on or before November 1, 2021, LEAs were required to submit a second report to the SSPI regarding the implementation of the plan, the strategies used, and whether those strategies increased the academic performance of the pupils identified pursuant subdivision.

Pursuant to EC Section 41570(f)(3), the CDE compiled the information reported on the adopted plan and submitted the report to the appropriate policy and fiscal committees of the Legislature on or before July 1, 2019. To comply with the second reporting requirement, the CDE compiled the information reported on plan implementation and submitted the report to the policy and fiscal committees of the Legislature on or before February 1, 2022.

The two required LPSBG legislative reports are posted on the CDE LPSBG Legislative Report web page at <https://www.cde.ca.gov/fg/aa/ca/lpsbglegreport.asp>.

*EC* Section 41570(f)(3) also requires the CDE to update the State Board of Education (SBE) on the contents of both reports. The June 2019 Memorandum (<https://www.cde.ca.gov/be/pn/im/documents/memo-pptb-iad-jun19item01.docx>) provided the SBE with an update on the required reports.

## Attachment(s)

None