

Title: Enhancing Student Well-being: A Comprehensive Plan for Rootstown Local Schools  
Updated: March 22, 2024

#### Introduction:

Ohio schools are committed to prioritizing the well-being of their students through strategic allocation of Disadvantaged Pupil Impact Aid (DPIA) and Student Wellness and Success Funds. This comprehensive plan outlines how Rootstown schools will utilize these funds effectively, in coordination with community partners, to address the diverse needs of students and enhance their overall wellness.

#### 1. Description of Fund Utilization:

- **Disadvantaged Pupil Impact Aid (DPIA):**

- DPIA funds will be used to implement targeted interventions and support programs aimed at addressing the academic and socio-economic needs of disadvantaged students. These interventions include nursing services, school resource officer programs directed toward the at-risk population, and access to additional resources such as a case manager to provide mental health services and refer students for counseling.

- Community Partner: Portage County Children's Services will collaborate with the school to provide case management services to address mental and physical health issues of students. The center will assist in identifying students in need of support and facilitate their participation in relevant programs.

- **Student Wellness and Success Funds:**

- At least 50% of the Student Wellness and Success Funds will be allocated to enhance physical healthcare services. These services include nursing services, providing mental health education programs, and improving access to healthcare resources for students.

- Community Partners:

1. Portage County Children's Services will collaborate with the school to provide counseling services and mental health education programs for students. Additionally, they will assist in training school staff to recognize signs of mental health issues and provide appropriate support.

2. Townhall II will partner with the school to address substance abuse prevention and intervention initiatives. They will provide resources, training, and support for implementing effective prevention programs and assisting students struggling with addiction.

3. Portage County Sheriff's Office will provide resource officers to ensure the safety and wellbeing of students and provide support for these programs.

4. Akron Children's Hospital will partner with the district to provide physical health services as referred by the case manager and district personnel.

#### 2. Coordination with Community Partners:

- The school will maintain regular communication and collaboration with community partners to ensure the effective utilization of funds and alignment of goals.

- Coordination efforts will involve regular meetings, joint planning sessions, and data sharing to assess the impact of interventions and make necessary adjustments.

### 3. Anticipated Impact of Fund Utilization:

- The utilization of funds is expected to have a significant positive impact on students' academic performance, well-being, and overall success.

- Approximately 313 disadvantaged students will have to opportunity to benefit from DPIA-funded programs, leading to improved academic outcomes and increased engagement in school.

- Mental health services provided through Student Wellness and Success Funds are expected to reach approximately 27 students, addressing their psychological needs and promoting a supportive school environment.

- The impact of fund utilization will be measured through various indicators, including academic progress, attendance rates, student satisfaction surveys, and qualitative feedback from students, parents, and staff.

Approximately \$120,000 will be utilized on Akron Children's Hospital for nursing services and support. Approximately \$60,000 will be used to provide school resource officers through Portage County and at least \$28,000 will provide case management services through Portage County Children's Services.

### Conclusion:

In conclusion, this comprehensive plan demonstrates Rootstown Local School's commitment to enhancing student well-being through strategic allocation of DPIA and Student Wellness and Success Funds. By collaborating with community partners and implementing targeted interventions, the district aims to address the diverse needs of students and create a supportive learning environment conducive to their academic and personal growth. This plan will be shared publicly to ensure transparency and accountability in the utilization of funds, ultimately benefiting the entire school community.