



# FY 2024-25 Student Success Fund Update

**Joint City and School District  
Select Committee**

April 17, 2025



# **Introduction:**

**Sherrice Dorsey-Smith, DCYF Interim Director**

**Dr. Maria Su, SFUSD Superintendent**

# Background and Purpose

The Student Success Fund (SSF) is administered by the Department of Children, Youth, and Their Families (DCYF) to provide additional resources to the San Francisco Unified School District (SFUSD) to:

- **accomplish grade-level success in core academic subjects**
- **improve social/emotional wellness for all students**

The Fund will encourage SFUSD to be innovative and creative in improving student outcomes in both areas, so that successful programs may be scaled up.

## **Within the legislation it is specified that DCYF can and/or will do the following:**

- On a funding cycle determined by the Department shall invite Eligible Schools to apply for grant funding to support academic achievement and social/emotional wellness of students.
- Provide a Student Success Grant to each Eligible School that the Department, after consultation with SFUSD, determines is capable of successfully implementing SFUSD's instructional and community school frameworks or other evidence-based school improvement strategies, based on the school's application.
- DCYF shall, or the Board of Supervisors may establish criteria by ordinance, to prioritize grants to schools demonstrating low academic achievement and/or with high number of vulnerable students, including but not limited to English language learners, foster youth, students eligible for free or reduced-price meals, homeless students, and students who are otherwise vulnerable or underserved.
- May provide grants to SFUSD if district applies for funding to plan or implement innovative programs designed to enhance student achievement or social/emotional wellness at an eligible school or group of eligible schools.
- DCYF has flexibility to provide technical assistance to a school if determined they do not have capacity to implement a Community School model and/or are not prepared to apply for funding.

# The Student Success Fund Advisory Council

**Serve as vital conduits of info** between constituencies and Executive Committee

- Raising school awareness and capacity
- Ensuring highest need schools have capacity to secure funds and implement community school vision

**Keep community informed** and engaged regarding SSF

- Pushing parent communications and information
- Increasing student/parent awareness of SSF

**Provide recommendations** grounded in community experiences and feedback to guide the Student Success Fund and Community Schools work

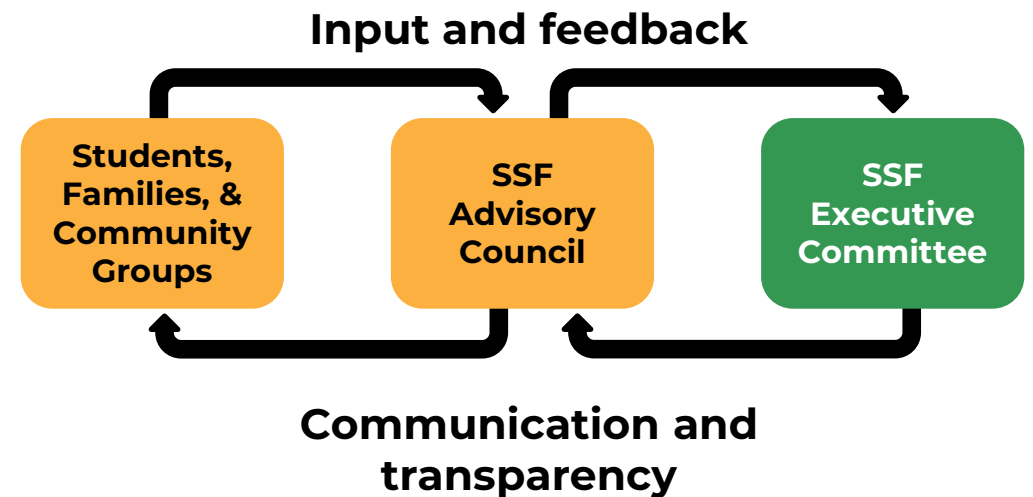
- Building agreement on outcomes and measurement
- Building a foundation (system)

**Collaborate with goal of helping students excel** and steering community schools toward becoming a model for educational excellence

- Ensuring equity vs. equality in award amounts
- Identifying partnerships

**Council Seats:**  
13 committed and passionate community members

- Community Partner (1)
- Beacon Centers (1)
- Family Representative (4)
- School Site Service Provider (1)
- Subject Matter Expert (1)
- SEIU Community School Coordinator Representative (1)
- UESF - Educator Representative (1)
- UASF - Principal Representative (1)
- Youth Commission (1)
- Student Advisory Council (1)



# **Grants to Schools: Readiness and Implementation**

# SSF Funding Buckets for FY24-25

Grants to Schools	
<b>Rapid Response</b>	Short term funds for emergency needs and emergent strategies.
<b>Readiness Grants</b>	Funds support a school to develop a cohesive, inclusive, and aligned plan.
<b>Implementation Grants</b>	Funds to manage and execute a cohesive, inclusive, and aligned plan.
District Innovation	
<b>District Innovation Grants</b>	Funds that will support cutting-edge ideas and programming that results in higher academic achievement and social emotional learning at eligible school sites. SFUSD Central Office must apply for these funds on behalf a group of Eligible Schools (2 or more), to implement an innovative program.
<b>Workforce Pipeline</b>	Funds to expand the SFUSD educator and college and career pathways to address workforce shortages in para-professional, school social worker, school district nurse and after school staffing.
<b>Technical Assistance</b>	Funds for technical assistance providers to support schools with the implementation of the Community Schools model and preparation for long term funding.
Administration	
<b>Administration</b>	Funds provided to DCYF and SFUSD for the administration of the SFF, per the charter.

# Overview of Grant Awards

## Readiness grants:

Supports eligible school sites in hiring a Community School Coordinator (CSC), completing the Community School Plan, and other staffing/program needs so they can apply for implementation grants.

<b>Maximum award:</b>	\$350,000 per year
<b>Grant term:</b>	July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2026

## Implementation grants:

Supports eligible school sites' implementation of their Community School Plan, which indicates what programming and supports are needed to meet the goals of the district.

<b>Maximum award:</b>	\$550,000 per year
<b>Grant term:</b>	July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2027 (with the option of two additional years)

## District Innovation grants:

Supports cutting-edge ideas and programming with SFUSD Central Office as lead with a group of Eligible Schools (2 or more), to implement an innovative program.

<b>Maximum award:</b>	\$7,000,000 per year for multiple projects
<b>Grant term:</b>	July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2029

## Rapid Response grants:

Supports short term use for emergency needs and emergent strategies.

<b>Maximum award:</b>	\$100,000 - \$150,000
<b>Grant term:</b>	July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025

# **Progress of Grants to Schools: Readiness and Implementation**



# FY2024-25 Grant Awards to Schools

## 53 total Readiness and Implementation awards:

- 25 readiness grants
- 28 implementation grants

## Readiness and Implementation awardees by grade level:

- 31 elementary schools
- 11 middle schools
- 11 high schools

## Rapid Response:

- 90 grantees



## Readiness Grants

**25 grants funded**

<b>Successes:</b>	By end of 2025, 92% of Community Schools Coordinators will be hired
	By end of 2025, 80% of sites will complete a Needs Assessment
	All sites on track for implementation status by FY25-26
<b>Challenges:</b>	Changes in hiring guidelines/delayed procurement processes and bureaucratic inefficiencies
	Difficult to establish family engagement and shared-decision making processes in current political and economic climate
	Technical skill gap among newer Community Schools Coordinators

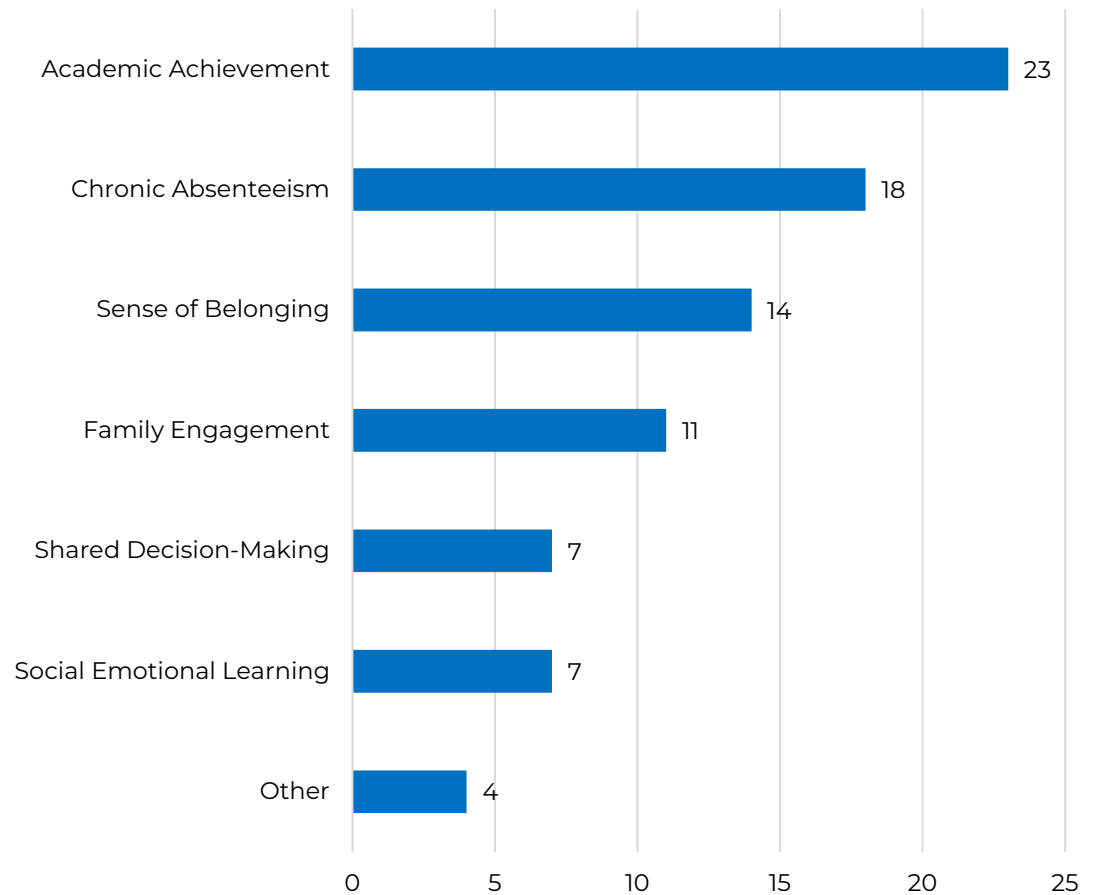
## Implementation Grants

**28 grants funded**

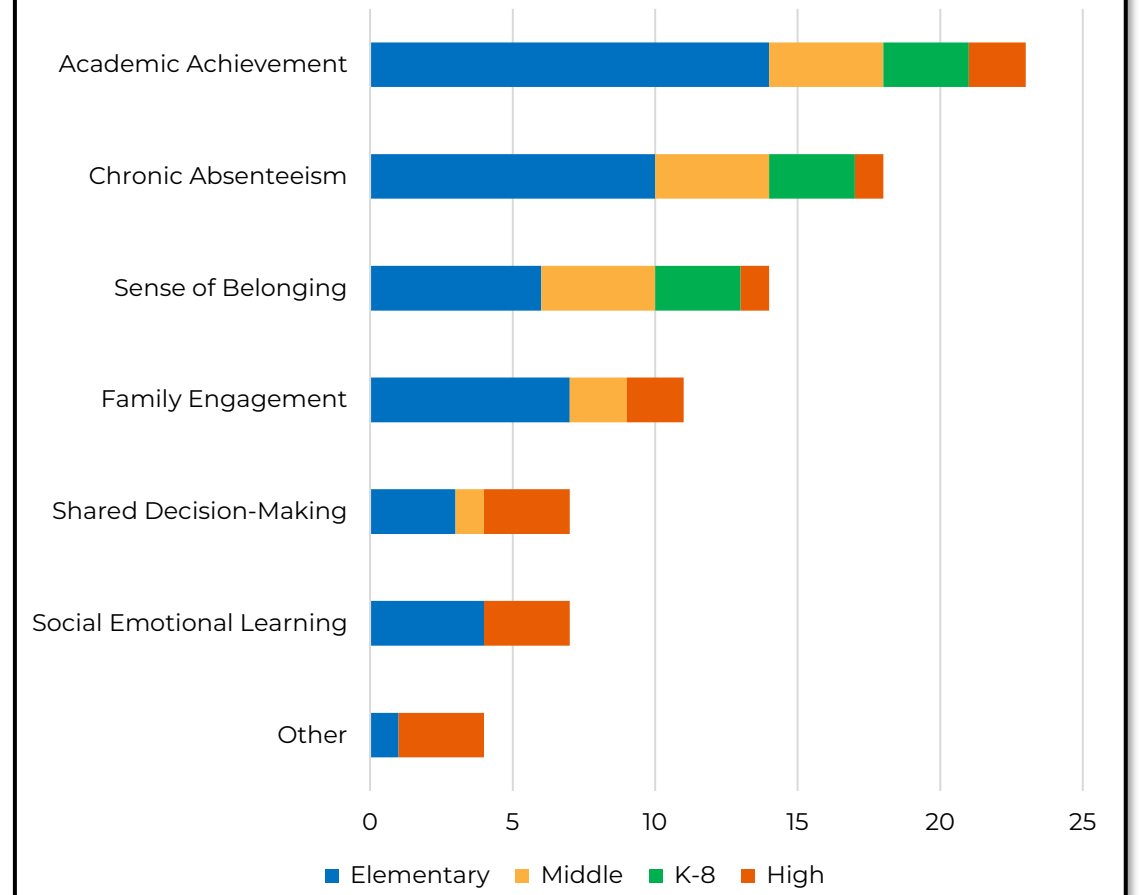
<b>Successes:</b>	82% saw increase/no change, to climate survey question on sense of belonging
	100% of sites submitted SMARTER goals with short- and long-term benchmarks
	As of April 2025, ~74% of SMARTER goals are on track to be fulfilled (25 sites represented in data).
<b>Challenges:</b>	Changes in hiring guidelines/delayed procurement processes and bureaucratic inefficiencies
	Difficult to establish family engagement and shared-decision making processes in current political and economic climate
	Insufficient systemic support for rising number of newcomer students

# Implementation SMARTe Goals

## SMARTe Goal Topics Overview



## SMARTe Goal Topics By Grade Level



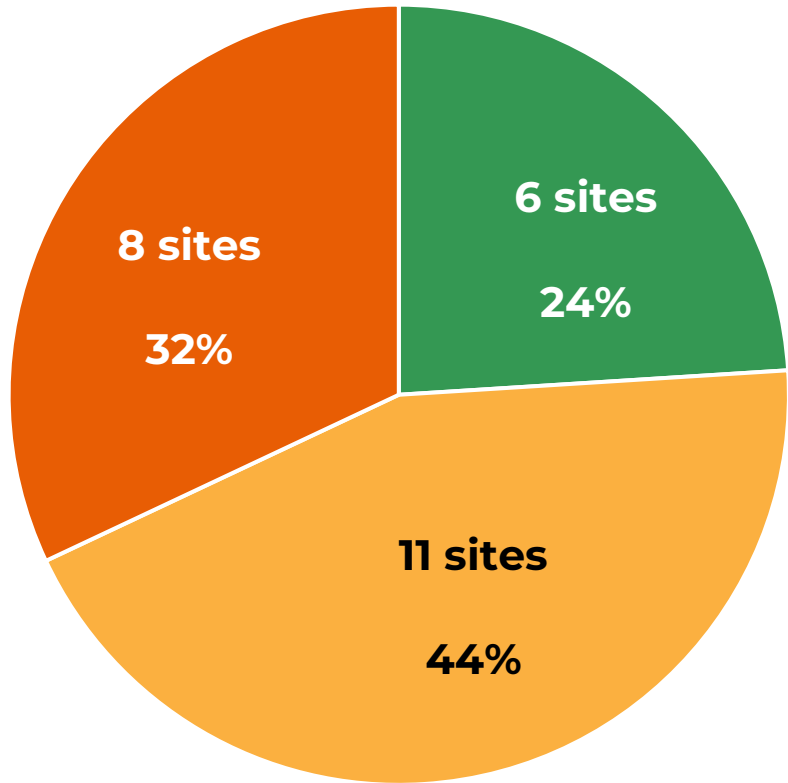
# Hiring for Readiness & Implementation Grants

Community School Coordinator hiring by grant type and date hired					
SSF Grant Type	Number of positions				
	Total hired	Hired prior to first semester	Hired during fall semester	Hiring during spring semester	Positions currently unfilled
Readiness	21	7	11	3	4
Implementation	26	20	5	1	2

## Key Staffing Numbers:

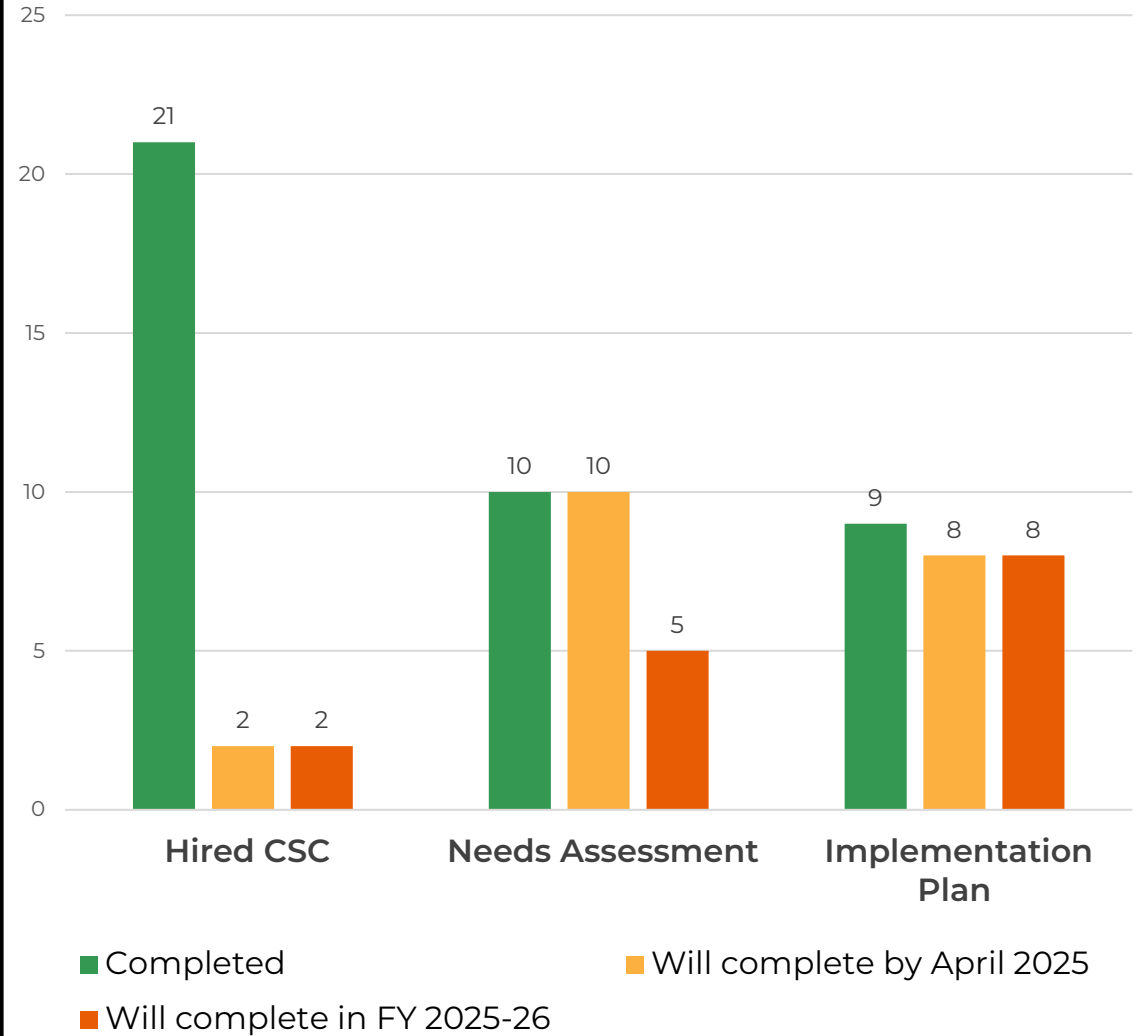
- 40 schools requested 90 Staffing Positions
- 79 Staffing positions approved and filled (21 out of 79 are Community School Coordinators)
- 6 Staffing positions approved and posted
- 5 Staffing positions reviewed by California Department of Education (CDE), and District chose not to move forward

## Readiness Sites Eligibility Requirements Completion Status



- Sites That Have Completed All 3 Requirements
- Sites on Track to Complete by April 2025
- Sites That Will Complete in 2025-26

## Readiness Site Milestones Sorted by Deliverable



- Completed
- Will complete by April 2025
- Will complete in FY 2025-26

# Dr. Charles R. Drew Preparatory Academy

## Grant Information

- Implementation site
- Grant amount: \$300,000

## An Impactful Initiative

The impact of Drew's gardening program is two-fold. It increases literacy proficiency by embedding hands-on, engaging learning experiences while also serving as a tool for wellness and emotional regulation.

All 2nd through 5th grade classes have participated in at least three gardening classes this year. These sessions tie literacy to real-world contexts like gardening through journaling, vocabulary development, and observational writing. Students are reading informational texts related to gardening, documenting their learning, and engaging in structured discussions, which support comprehension and language development. The site is beginning to see early signs of growth in fluency, comprehension, and student engagement across grade levels.

The site has begun incorporating mindfulness activities and wellness practices into garden sessions, helping students build language around their emotions and strategies for managing stress. Staff have also started to use the space informally for class meetings and restorative conversations. These are early but powerful indicators that the garden is becoming a trusted part of the school environment.

# Mission High School

## Grant Information

- Implementation site
- Grant amount: \$150,000

## An Impactful Initiative

To address critical student needs, the principal conducted deep listening sessions with students to devise responsive strategies. The site's Community School Coordinator and Admin team collaborated with student government and youth leadership to empower student voices. This blended group co-created several engagements such as festive afterschool activities and schoolwide events. This programming is instrumental in helping foster community among students from diverse backgrounds.

By strengthening shared-decision making processes with youth, the site witnessed a **32% increase in students' sense of belonging** from SY2023-24, as well as a **6.6% decrease in chronic absenteeism** rate (both highest amongst Implementation Sites).

# Technical Assistance



# FY2024-25 Technical Assistance

## Coaching and tailored support for 69 eligible school sites:

Three (3) Technical Assistance providers available

Support type	Data
<b>One on One Coaching</b> (contract requirements, leadership, workplan, budgets)	<b>332</b> hours in <b>273</b> sessions provided
<b>School Site Consultations</b> (tailored school retreats, planning, presentations, etc.)	<b>207</b> hours in <b>90</b> sessions with school teams
<b>Workshops/Trainings</b> (strategic planning, Community Schools strategy)	<b>86</b> workshops and trainings held
<b>Peer Learning Communities (PLC)</b> (monthly peer sharing, networking and skill building)	<b>21</b> PLCs held
<b>Citywide Summits</b> (quarterly events for sharing of best practices and skill development)	<b>2</b> summits held with <b>+150</b> participants at each

## Coaching and tailored support for principals:

Two (2) Technical Assistance providers available

Support type	Data
<b>One on One Coaching</b> (strategy development, leadership, budgets)	<b>24</b> principals received coaching
<b>Workshops/Trainings</b> (strategic planning, Community Schools strategy)	<b>6</b> workshops and trainings held



# FY24-25 Technical Assistance Testimonials

*“One-on-one coaching, site-based consultations, and high school PLC spaces helped give guidance and coaching to not be stuck in a silo at my school site – how to hold the community schools work with fidelity because our school sites pull us to be more support staff versus our role to facilitate transformation of the school systems and school experience for students and families.”*

- Community Schools Coordinator

*“I value the clarity, support, advice and other useful information that is giving me a better understanding of my role as well as suggestions for improving my work plan, SSC issues, etc.”*

- Community Schools Coordinator

*“The coaching is extremely valuable in all aspects and on all levels. I think it is propelling this work forward in a way that could not happen without it.”*

- Beacon Director

*“[My coach] played a pivotal role in transforming our presentation [for our School Site Summit] into a clear, concise, and impactful experience. Her calm demeanor and positive approach fostered a collaborative environment, allowing us to co-create content that truly resonates with our community. I am deeply grateful for her invaluable support in making this presentation a success.”*

- Principal



# District Innovation

# Whole School Lesson Study

## **Primary goals:**

- Improve mathematics instruction and student outcomes by scaling lesson study across schools
- Sustain work at four pilot schools and spread to new schools that meet readiness criteria and demonstrate intention to improve mathematics outcomes
- Educators collaborate to plan, teach, observe, and reflect on lessons, creating a continuous cycle of professional growth and instructional improvement.
- Aligned with SFUSD's Goal 2 to increase math proficiency, our focus is on supporting Black, Latinx, and Multilingual Learners—student populations historically underrepresented in high academic achievement.

**Expanding:** As we expand, work with schools to develop necessary systems, structures, and professional development to embed lesson study into culture, ensuring sustainability and long-term impact.

Aim to build district-wide culture of continuous improvement in mathematics education, with goal of reaching every student, every day.

# Evidence of Increased Student Achievement:

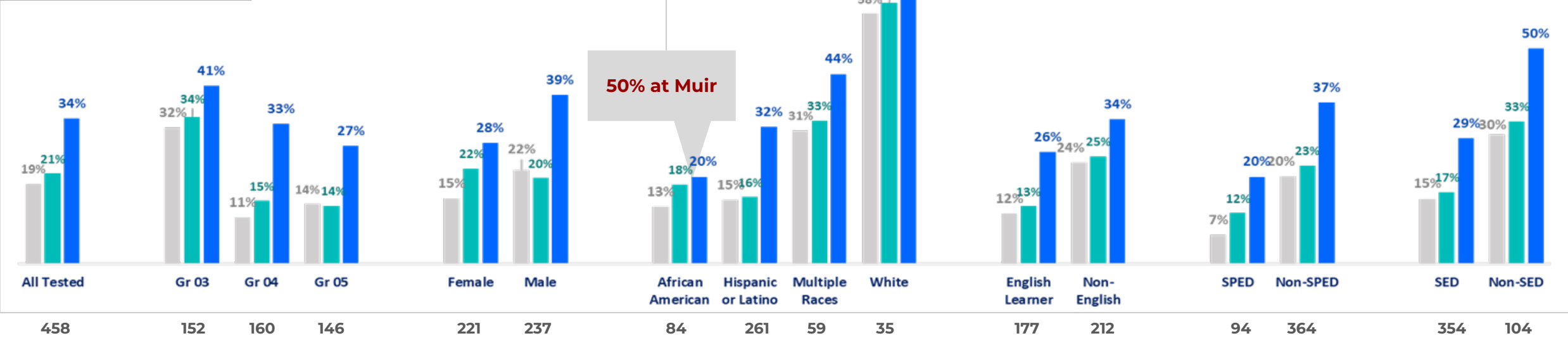
## Math proficiency in SBAC Assessments

After two years, the results are promising. The proportion of proficient students in **math increased from 21% to 34%**. Also, significant improvements among **Black, Latiné, and low-income, EL, and SPED students**.

The **progress of Black students** at Muir has been notable, with **50% achieving proficiency** in math, compared to just **15% at the district** level in spring '24.

Four LS schools

■ 21-22 ■ 22-23 ■ 23-24



4-Grant schools sample size for 2023-24

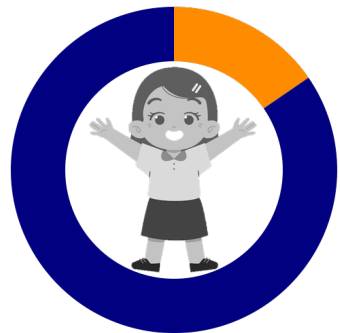
Source: SFUSD Achievement Assessment Office. 10/24/2024. Definitions: SPED=Special Education Status, SED=Socioeconomic disadvantage. Focal groups with fewer than 10 cases are not displayed. Percentages rounded to the nearest whole number.



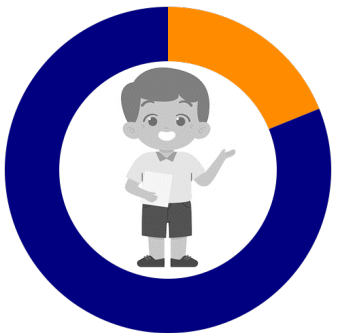
# Student Math Mindset: Spring 2024



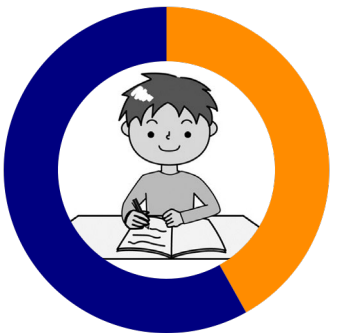
3-schools,  
all grades combined



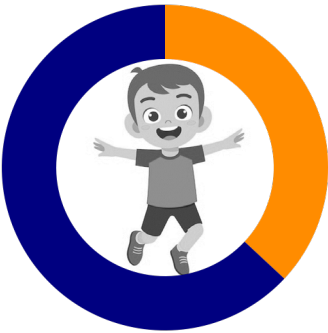
**85%**  
of students enjoy  
their math class



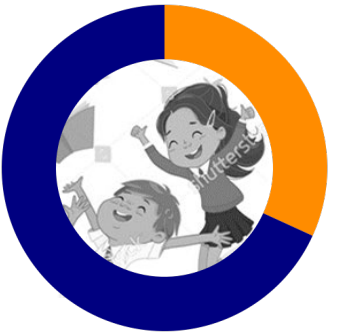
**81%**  
of students feel smart  
working with math problems



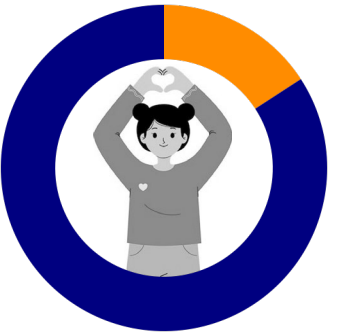
**58%**  
of students feel comfortable making  
mistakes



**63%**  
of students feel good  
sharing their math ideas in class  
Grades 3 to 5 only



**68%**  
of students feel  
other students learn from  
their math ideas in class



**84%**  
of students feel like their  
teacher values their math  
ideas  
Grades 3 to 5 only

**Positive answers:**  
Almost always + Often

**Negative answers:**  
Not very often + Almost never

**Source:** Student Survey. Data collected by the Lesson Study Network from SFUSD.

**Date:** May 2024. Sample=726 students (Flynn=306, John Muir=177, Sanchez=243).

The survey in grades K-2 included only 4 out of 6 questions. Percentages rounded to the nearest whole number.

# Whole School Lesson Study: Q1 and Q2 Progress

## **Application and readiness scale:**

Established application process and developed readiness scale to assess each school's preparedness for implementing lesson study. Worked with the Lesson Study Steering Committee to define criteria for selecting schools to join the project.

## **Collaboration of experts and knowledgeable partners:**

- Began development of network of knowledgeable others by including new university partners, such as Dr. Maria Zavala from San Francisco State University, who will provide expert commentary for our research lessons with satellite teams. The group has begun discussing the scope of the work, analyzing patterns across the network, and collaborating on strategies for promoting continuous improvement.
- Engagement with administrators from Cesar Chávez Elementary School and Daniel Webster Elementary School, school that will become part of the program next year.
- Members of the advisory council have been meeting with these schools to discuss implementation plans and drawing on lessons learned from the four pilot schools.

# Rapid Response



# Rapid Response

FY 2024-2025 (YTD as of 4.1.25)			
Category	SFUSD Budgeted	Total Amount Spent	Total Amount Remaining
Rapid Response	*\$11,700,000.00	\$1,928,822.00 + (\$1,376,587**)	\$8,394,591.00***

Supports short term use for emergency needs and emergent strategies. Cannot be used to fund ongoing positions or core non-FTE needs (i.e., ongoing supplies or annual contracts).

The one-time \$8.4M for the School Stabilization Team to support the District, was allocated in accordance with allowable uses and parameters under the Fund.

Effective FY24-25, schools can apply for up to \$150k in grants through SSF’s Rapid Response grant for crisis support, discrete problem-solving, and emergent strategies to improve student outcomes:

- Current SSF Readiness or Implementation Grant recipients can apply for up to **\$100,000** for the year (SY24-25).
- Non-SSF Readiness or Implementation Grant recipients can apply for up to **\$125,000**. If the \$125,000 is expensed, sites can apply for an **additional \$25,000** (total of \$150,000 in SY24-25).

**Use of Rapid Response Funds include:** One-time purchases or professional service contracts for short term/one time needs such as professional development, educational events, student wellness, equipment and supplies, etc.

Examples of qualifying uses include, but not limited to:

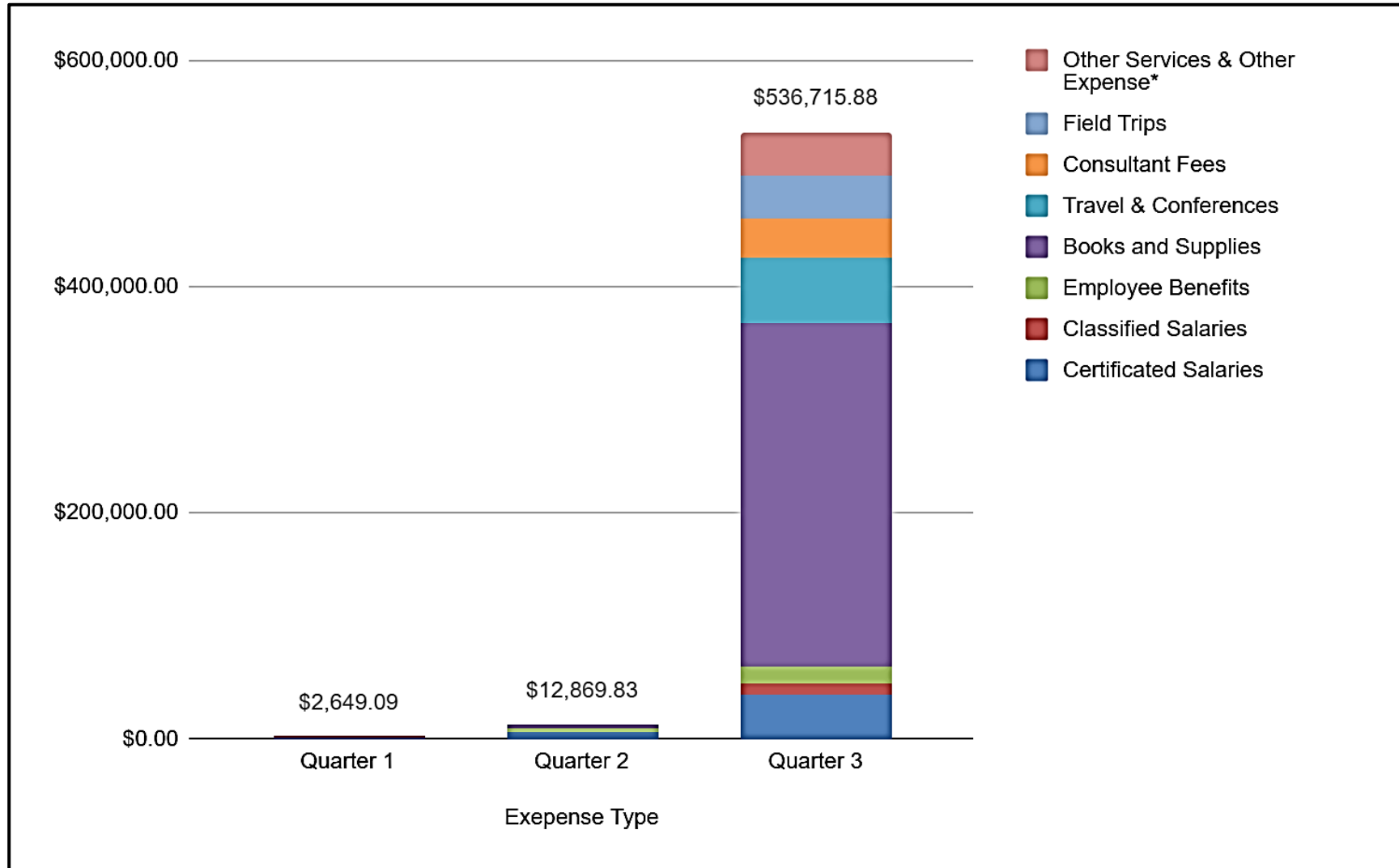
Supplies for supplemental curriculum, instructional materials, SEL, wellness, other whole-child supports

Service contracts to provide families access to basic needs, including services to address food insecurity and transportation challenges (MUNI passes), etc.

Service contracts to provide additional tutoring, before and after school programs, family partnership or other supplemental services.

Work or purchase orders to support non-capital facility projects and repairs, replacement of educational equipment, materials, and supplies.

# Expenditures for Rapid Response Grants by Expense Type and Quarterly Reporting Period



# **Budget Update: Looking Forward**

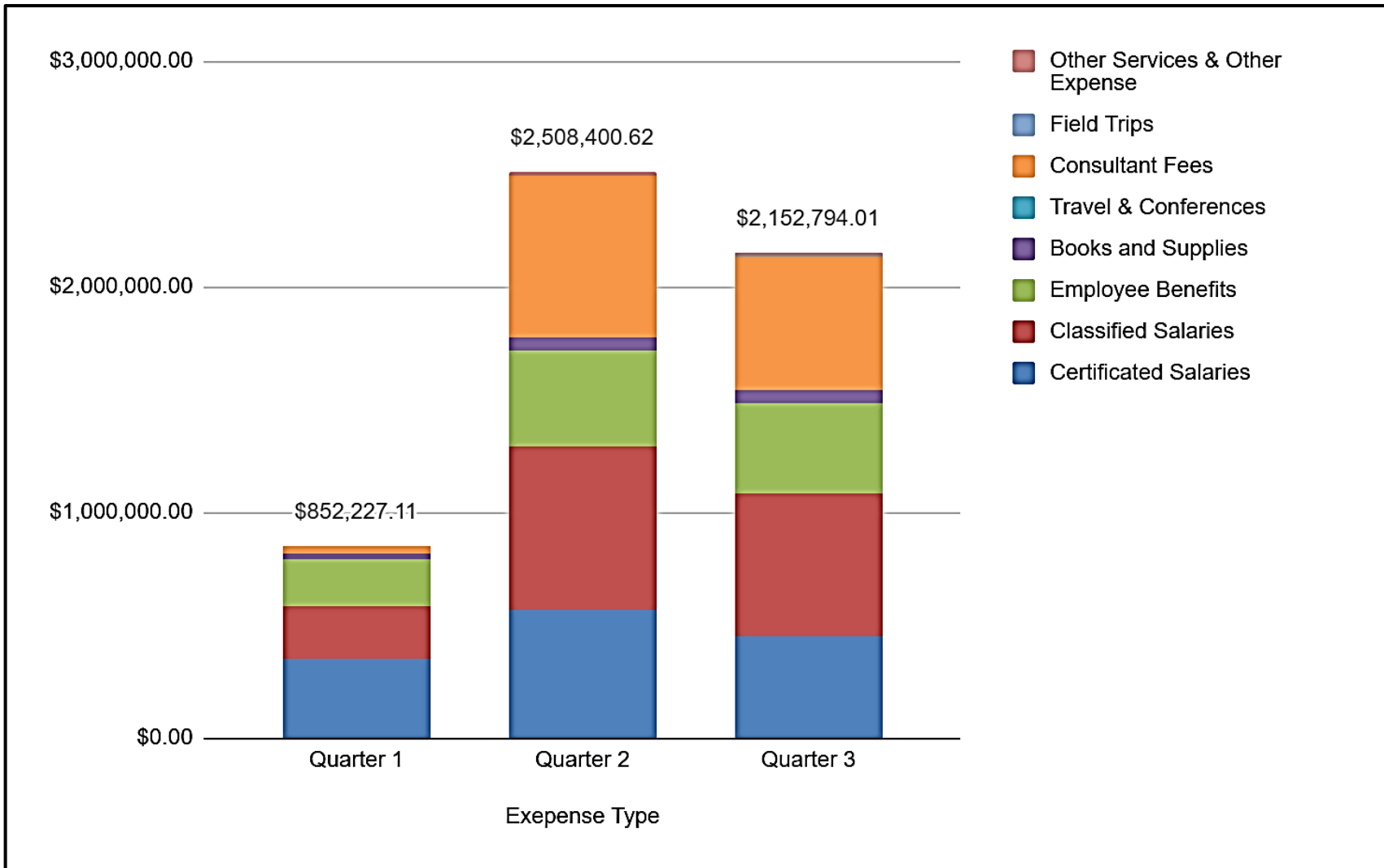
# Budget Update: All Expenditures

FY 2024-2025 (YTD as of 4.1.25)								
CATEGORY	SFUSD Budgeted	Total Amount Spent	Total Amount Remaining		DCYF Budgeted	Total Amount Spent	Total Amount Remaining	Fund Balance
Rapid Response	*\$11,700,000.00	\$1,928,822.00 + (\$1,376,587**)	\$8,394,591.00***		\$0			
District Innovation/Workforce Pipeline	\$7,250,000.00	\$581,401.00	\$6,668,599.00		\$0			
SSF Readiness Grants	\$6,630,000.00	\$5,402,870.00 + (\$3,868,814.00**)	\$5,147,646.00***		\$0			
SSF Implementation Grant	\$7,789,360.00			\$0				
Technical Assistance	\$500,000.00	\$173,531.00	\$326,469.00		\$2,600,000.00	\$938,508.00		
Administration (6%)	\$1,050,000.00	0	\$1,050,000.00		\$1,255,000.00	\$230,804.00		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$35,019,360.00</b>	<b>\$13,332,025.00</b>	<b>\$21,687,335.00</b>		<b>\$3,855,000.00</b>	<b>\$1,169,312.00</b>	<b>\$2,685,688.00</b>	
<b>TOTAL AMOUNT ALLOCATED</b>	<b>\$35,019,360.00</b>				<b>\$3,855,000.00</b>			
<b>REMAINING BALANCE</b>	<b>\$0</b>				<b>\$4,625,640.00 (currently unallocated)</b>			<b>\$1,400,000.00</b>
<p>*Includes \$8.5M that was provided to the SFUSD Stabilization Team.  ** Executed Contract amounts that have been approved and partially invoiced.  *** Projected Amount Remaining</p>								

# SY24-25 Readiness & Implementation Grant Expenditures by Expense Type and Quarterly Reporting Period

Expense Type	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Total Expenses
Certificated Salaries	\$346,511.83	\$565,780.20	\$448,652.70	\$1,230,686.55
Classified Salaries	\$237,144.74	\$726,252.26	\$637,736.33	\$1,620,850.54
Employee Benefits	\$210,054.64	\$425,958.57	\$398,861.39	\$1,034,874.60
Books and Supplies	\$25,181.46	\$52,853.34	\$53,627.30	\$131,662.10
Travel & Conferences	\$995.00	\$5,120.60	\$5,800.40	\$11,916.00
Consultant Fees	\$26,991.68	\$716,187.54	\$584,977.85	\$1,328,157.07
Field Trips	\$0.00	\$1,988.08	\$10,780.50	\$12,768.58
Other Services & Other Expense	\$5,347.76	\$14,260.03	\$12,357.54	\$31,954.12
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$852,227.11</b>	<b>\$2,508,400.62</b>	<b>\$2,152,794.01</b>	<b>\$5,402,869.56</b>

# Expenditures for Readiness & Implementation Grants by Expense Type and Quarterly Reporting Period



# Student Success Fund Budget at \$35M

The charts below represent the SSF budget if it does not increase over the next three years due to the City deficit.

FY26-27 marks beginning of providing backfill for CCSPG grants (Cohort 1) that begin to sunset. In addition, all Readiness Grants turn into Implementation Grants thus the amount needed is increased. Grants go from \$350K max to \$550K max.

FY 2025-2026		
Category	SFUSD	DCYF
Rapid Response	\$3,300,000.00	\$0
District Innovation	\$7,250,000.00	\$0
Readiness Grants	\$6,630,000.00	\$0
Implementation Grant	\$7,789,360.00	\$0
Technical Assistance	\$500,000.00	\$2,600,000.00
Administration (6%)	\$1,050,000.00	\$1,255,000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$26,519,360.00</b>	<b>\$3,855,000.00</b>
<b>Total amount allocated</b>	<b>\$26,519,360.00</b>	<b>\$3,855,000.00</b>
<b>Remaining balance</b>	<b>\$0</b>	

FY 2026-2027		
Category	SFUSD	DCYF
Rapid Response	\$0	\$0
District Innovation	\$7,250,000.00	\$0
Readiness Grants	\$0	\$0
Implementation Grant	\$21,626,860.00	\$0
Technical Assistance	\$500,000.00	\$2,600,000.00
Administration (6%)	\$1,050,000.00	\$1,255,000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$30,426,860.00</b>	<b>\$3,855,000.00</b>
<b>Total amount allocated</b>	<b>\$30,426,860.00</b>	<b>\$3,855,000.00</b>
<b>Remaining balance</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$718,140.00</b>

# Next Steps

## Next Round of Grants

- School Sites with Readiness Grants will apply in late fall /early winter 2025 for Implementation Grants
- Implementation Grants awarded in Winter/Spring 2026, execution in Fall 2026



## Evaluation and Assessment

- RFQ for Evaluators is complete and we are in process of selecting an SSF Evaluation firm
- Evaluation of SSF begins in Fall/Winter 2025



## Expansion

- Fall 2025 discussion of possibilities with Fund Balance
- Spring 2026 planning for potential increase in SSF will begin for FY27-28





**Thank you!**