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Colt Gill

Director of the Department of Education and Deputy Superintendent of Public Instruction

To: Superintendents, Charter School Leaders

From: Colt Gill, Director of the Oregon Department of Education

Date: April 18, 2023

Subject: Funding Detail Supplement to the April 18 – 2023 Summer Learning Resources Update

Despite the broad support for investments in summer learning and enrichment over the past two years and our advocacy for this year, it doesn't appear there is the needed legislative support to give you the certainty and time you need to plan for the summer.

Districts may braid and blend other local, state, and federal funds to support summer learning. Here are funding sources you can look to:

- <u>Summer Learning Best Practice Guide</u>, which includes detailed information on braiding and blending across State and Federal funding streams as well as supplement/supplant considerations (p. 29-33).
  - O For specific populations and purposes, Title I-A, I-C, III, IV-B and other ESEA as well as IDEA funds can be used to help support summer learning and IDEA Extended School Year.
- ESSER Funds may also be an option for some districts:
  - o ESSER II funds remain available for this purpose through September, 2023.
  - O ESSER III funds remain available through September, 2024. Many districts have named summer learning in their ESSER III District Plans and, if not, districts can update their District Plans. Districts do not need to ask for permission to change the way they spend their ESSER III dollars in the meantime, as long as the expenditures are allowable under the law. Districts should consider their engagement process they used when developing their District Plans. Please see the ESSER III Eligible Uses of Funds document for the full list of eligible uses.
- SSA Student Investment Account funds may also be used for summer learning as part of adding to instructional learning time.
  - O School districts and charter schools are encouraged to use any unspent funds from the Student Investment Account (SIA) and High School Success (HSS) programs as they close the 2023 school year. Both SIA and HSS allow for spending with summer extensions. Spending must occur by 8/30/23 for HSS and 9/30/23 for SIA. If grantees are switching their planned use of funds for summer programming, ODE won't require a plan change to be submitted in advance as long as it is aligned with the focus of this announcement as proven through final expenditure reporting. HSS funds are only allowable for grades 9-12 (with a 15% limit on grade 8 transitions).

O The utilizing of resources for SIA, HSS, and other programs under the Integrated Guidance for 2023 summer programs is also possible, while more nuanced. This would require notification of an approved plan and budget. Planned summer spending or pivoting to summer program expenses in tiered budget plans will be allowed without prior approval. Spending can begin July 1, 2023. However, districts and schools should note that they won't be able to claim or draw down funds in EGMS until the state processes grant agreements. Effectively, districts and schools need the cash flow to cover what would then be reimbursable expenses.