

Lands Trust Plan 2017-18

School Goal One - Valley High is an alternative high school whose focus is on helping students get back on track for graduation to improve graduation rates. In addition, we are committed to improving students' post-secondary options/outcomes.

Measurement-

1. The Professional Learning Community here at Valley High is tracking the amount of students who pass classes, fail classes, or don't earn credit due to lack of attendance. We are implementing an outreach plan where teachers call or email students and parents when students are absent from their class.
2. We have implemented flex time into our school day called "Power Hour." During this time students may make up absences, or get individual help with assignments from any teacher. During Power Hour they may go to the math lab to receive one-on-one assistance in their math classes. Also during this time our careers lab is open for students to apply for jobs, work on resumes, research colleges or trade schools, and fill out applications for colleges and scholarships.
3. Weekly during our Power Hour flex time we offer a guest speaker series to spotlight various career pathways and opportunities. We are able to highlight a variety of fields and interest areas for our students. Data is being collected on the number of students taking advantage of this time.

Action Plan: As a faculty we are working on increasing student engagement and positive teacher/student relationships to improve student learning and students earning credit. Activities that need funding to support this plan include:

1. Payment of tuition or admission to conferences and workshops for teachers to keep apprised of current trends in research and best practices. There are many quality conferences available each year, we will prioritize those in order of relevance to our student population and select teachers to attend. These teachers will then report to the entire faculty and share the information through our Professional Learning Community. (PLC)
2. PLC support through the purchase of books, DVDs, or other materials.
3. Partial funding of our Career Center Assistant who runs our College and Career Readiness classroom. Her duties include; assisting students in filling out college applications, research scholarships specific to our at-risk population, and complete FAFSA forms. She organizes two financial aid nights for students and parents, she has developed a relationship with our local community college who make several visits to our campus each year, two successful College and Career Fairs. Finally, she has created partnerships with community businesses who provide internships and employment opportunities to our students.
4. Money to fund an outreach aide for our non-attenders. It is crucial that our students attend every day and give school their best effort. Many have obstacles in their living and transportation situations. Some have health issues which are not addressed due to financial and family problems. It is very beneficial to have a live person who makes personal phone calls to track students who quit attending and make no contact with us. The hope is to find out the situation and share information about any community resources that may be available to help so the student can return to school. We need the

contact to be personal. We hope to hire someone who is fluent bi-lingual in Spanish to reach more of our students and their families

5. Funding to pay for a summer aide to reach out to students who stopped attending Valley High or one of our feeder schools. This individual will make contact with students and their parents to invite them to re-enroll at Valley High school. Additional information is shared with them about adult high school and or GED programs.

Projected Expenses for Goal 1 – based on our best estimate at this time

Conferences registrations etc. for teacher training. Budget code (2290 331) \$3000

Substitute pay for some of these teacher activities. Budget Code (1073 132) \$1000

Seventeen hour Dropout Prevention Aide to contact students who quit attending. Budget code (1084 165) \$6000

Summer Aide for dropout prevention outreach. Budget code (1084 165) \$1000

PLC support materials. Budget code (1090 610) \$1000

TOTAL BUDGETED \$13,000

School Goal Two: Our second goal is to increase the options that students have to earn recovery credit for classes they have failed in the past before coming to Valley High School. We strive to offer quality credit recovery options for students to earn additional credits beyond their full time class schedule with us.

Measurement –

1. We track the amount of recovery credits earned and completed each year. In 2015-16 we had 1822 quarter credits recovered by our 700 students during that school year. Our data from this year will be available on May 26th, 2017. Valley High has been nurturing and growing a program for students to earn make up credit through activities and field trips on Fridays throughout the school year. By the end of the 2016-17 school year, we will have three years of data to compare for analysis. We can then make any needed adjustments to our program. Just last year there was a 30% increase in the students using the Friday Activity programs and other methods to earn credit over the previous school year.
2. We have expanded our depth and breadth of field trip experiences to include such diverse activities as a tour of Red Butte Gardens, a visit to Antelope Island at the Great Salt Lake, and a beautiful day walking the gardens at the Thanksgiving Point Tulip Festival. Our students were able to see a Jazz fusion concert at Kingsbury Hall, and have a backstage tour of Hale Center Theatre. They have visited all of the major museums in our area and this spring they spent a day to apply their math skills to create and launch bottle rockets. We have conducted thirty different field trip activity experiences for our students in the 2016-17 school year. It is our hope that these trips expand our student's knowledge

and awareness of the community in which they live and the many career opportunities within each of these diverse activities.

3. Based on our recovery credit data from last year, we have modified due dates so that students have 30 days after participating in a field trip or purchasing a packet to get the work completed. We also have new field trips planned each year so that a student might be enrolled with us for two years and not experience the same field trip twice.

Action Plan: We are working as a faculty and within our departments to achieve our goal by improving the type and variety of credit recovery packets available to our students. Any packet developed is reviewed by an outside committee of educators within our district. This committee uses a rubric that was developed to assure alignment with the Utah State Standards in each subject. The committee also checks for quality, rigor and copyright licensing with all the packets students are using to recover credit while with Valley High. Activities that may need funding to support this action plan include:

1. Pay teachers to spend personal time outside of school hours to work in Departments to align curriculum and create curriculum maps. At Valley High students have more than one teacher in each subject based on their graduation plan. Our faculty members must spend additional time to ensure a diverse sampling of the curriculum and corresponding objectives without duplication which may leave some standards not covered.
2. Expansion of the Friday Activity Packets. This program allows students to participate in pre-reading activities, participate in a quality field experience on a Friday when school is not held, and then follow up with writing assignments about the trip. Costs of the Friday Field Trip Program include busing, Utah Transit Authority Trax tokens or wristbands, entrance/admission fees for students, snacks needed for some activities, and lunch for students on most of the trips. We do not have regular school on Fridays. The trips start at 9 and often end at 3 PM. It is imperative students are fed so they can focus and learn. 40% of our students qualify for free or reduced school lunch. In the past when we have asked them to bring their own lunches and snacks, most just went the day without.
3. Purchase of novels, atlases, inexpensive calculators, pedometers, and other support materials for credit recovery activities.

Projected Expenses for Goal 2: Based on our best estimate at this time

Friday Field Trips admissions and transportation. Budget code (1090 599) \$5000

Department In-service Day for curricular mapping & alignment. Budget Code (2213 131) \$2000

TOTAL BUDGETED \$7000

School Goal Three

Our third goal is to increase our students reading abilities during the time they are here at Valley High School. Our testing data shows that the majority of students are at least two grade levels behind in their reading when they enroll with us. This is a large part of why they are struggling in school and have not passed some of their classes at their previous schools.

Measurement: We administer the SRI to all incoming students and test again at the end of the year to measure progress. Our PLC has developed a reading inventory that will help assess attitudes toward reading. We will use this data to see if we can find additional ways to increase literacy in our students.

Action Plan: The Professional Learning Community is focusing a large share of our time to reading strategies and working as a group to teach our students a variety of strategies that can be used in all curricular areas.

Our teachers have also started a Book Club to showcase that adults read books and discuss them just for fun! Students are given the copy of that quarter's book to keep for their very own. The only caveat is that they are invited to share it with a family member or friend when they are done reading and discussing it, who may also like to read the selected novel. The teacher/student group meets at the end of the quarter to discuss the novel and have some snacks; attendance to each meeting is optional just like adult book clubs operate. We have now added a reflection and essay to our Book Club that is optional but those students who choose to participate can earn a quarter English credit to remediate a previously failed course.

Projected Expenses for Goal 3: based on our best estimate at this time

We will use the funds to purchase 75 copies of a selected novel each quarter. We used to buy 50 copies but the Book Club has increased in its popularity. Those copies are distributed on a first come, first served basis. Budget Code (1090 641) \$4000

TOTAL BUDGETED \$4000

School Goal Four

In accordance with research findings and the impact Service Learning has on student/school connectedness, our fourth goal is to expand our Service Learning program and provide opportunities for our students to experience civic engagement by giving back to their world locally and globally. There is ample evidence of the positive outcomes these programs generate on student success.

Measurement: Total hours of service will be documented. Our goal is to increase opportunities for service. The students will complete a personal reflection essay about their involvement with service learning and how it has impacted their educational experience.

Action Plan: The service learning program allows students to give of their time on Fridays when regular school is not in session. This involvement gives students a hands on learning experience. Our three counselors implement and supervise the service learning program at Valley High. Through this program counselors are able to deliver guidance lessons ranging from college and career readiness and resiliency to global citizenship. Service projects include; donating time to the Utah Food Bank, sewing, decorating, and filling Christmas stockings for a local Boys and Girls Club, making blankets for the homeless, cleaning up the Jordan River Trail, buying and assembling hygiene kits for the Homeless Youth Resource Center, writing cards to Veterans and our soldiers overseas, sewing dresses for children in Africa, donating time to the LDS Humanitarian Center, and care packages for children in Zimbabwe, knitting hats for cancer patients at various hospitals and treatment centers.

Activities that may need funding to support this action plan include:

1. Purchase consumable supplies for projects, yarn, felt, fleece, craft items, small toys, socks, mittens, note cards, paper, ribbon, beads, paint, shirts, shampoo, soap, tooth brushes, toothpaste, bulk trash bags, etc.
2. Purchase durable goods to be used each year: looms, cutting boards, scissors, sewing machines, hand spades, rakes, gloves, shovels, etc.

Projected Expenses for Goal 4: Based on our best estimate at this time

Supplies that are consumable. Budget Code (1090 610) \$5000

TOTAL BUDGETED \$5000

School Goal Five: To increase our student's engagement and technical skills, we are working towards having a set of 20 Chromebooks in each classroom where the teacher has demonstrated a need and desire to use them.

We hope to expand this into other classrooms next year. Our teachers will sign up for training with our tech teachers and self-report the use of the Chromebook sets quarterly.

We will review the use by our students at mid-year and make adjustments as necessary.

We have been shopping estimates for the Chromebook sets and each classroom would need a Belkin type charging station to hold and recharge the units.

We hope to expand this into other classrooms next year.

Total 5,000

Plans for any increase in funds:

First would use any increases or surplus to remodel a bathroom and turn it into a laundry room for our homeless students. We have about 12% of our student population that qualifies as homeless. They often do not have use of a washer & dryer for clean clothing. We would purchase the machines, remodel the space, and buy the necessary soap, etc. We have an adult Student Advocate aide who can monitor the use and train the students who may not know how to use/run the machines.

Second we would use additional monies of any increased distribution help with technology needs which cannot be filled through our funds from our district. We try to use our tech budget first but often it is not enough. We are working on acquiring a set of 10 Chromebooks and a small charging stand in each classroom. We also use these funds to replace Epson projectors or replace a teacher laptop that may have failed during the school year.

Carry Over Explanation:

In our plan last year we have budgeted for a seventeen hour aide to assist our special education students who need even more support in their classroom. Because we are an alternative school with a different schedule, this classroom aide has been needed from 1 PM – 6 PM four days a week. It has been very difficult to find someone to work at these hours. Most people who apply to be a classroom aide expect to work during the regular school day so they can be home with their own children in the evening hours. This position has been so difficult to staff we have decided not to have this position. Instead we are going to focus on hiring a Drop Out Prevention Aide to make personal contact with students with attendance problems.

Summary:

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| Goal #1 | \$14,000 |
| Goal #2 | \$7,000 |
| Goal #3 | \$3,000 |
| Goal #4 | \$4,000 |
| Goal #5 | \$5,000 |
| Total | \$33,0000 |