



BLOOMFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION - BOARD OF EDUCATION FINANCE COMMITTEE

Board of Education Finance Committee AT Tuesday, October 1, 2024

Bloomfield Board of Education 1133 Blue Hills Avenue Board Room, 1133 Blue Hills Avenue ,
Bloomfield, CT 06002

1. Establishment of a Quorum and Call to Order
K. Dunbar
2. Conesent Agenda
 - A. Approval of Minutes - Finance Committee Meeting - May 28, 2024 2
K. Dunbar
3. New Business
 - A. Review of the District Alliance Grant Application 4
L. Lamenzo and E. Pierce
4. Adjournment
K. Dunbar



Board of Education – Finance Committee Meeting
Tuesday, May 28, 2024 at 6:00 PM
Bloomfield Board of Education, Board Room
1133 Blue Hills Avenue
Bloomfield, CT 06002

ATTENDANCE: K. Dunbar, Chair Present
T. Mack-Mohammed Absent
L. Simone Absent
L. Easmon, *ex-officio* Present

ALSO PRESENT: T. Moore B. Silver E. Pierce
D. Greco T. Curtis L. Lamenzo

1. Establishment of a Quorum and Call to Order

K. Dunbar called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m. The roll was called and a quorum was present.

2. Consent Agenda

A. Approval of Minutes –Finance Committee Meeting – April 25, 2024

A motion was made by L. Easmon and seconded by K. Dunbar for the Finance Committee to approve the minutes from April 25, 2024 meeting, as presented.

The motion was passed unanimously 2-0-0.

3. New Business

A. Legislative Impacts on School Budget

Dr. Bethany Silver, Acting Superintendent, Domenic Greco, Director of Accounting and Elisa Pierce, District Grants Specialist provided an overview of Legislative impacts on the district budget. Dr. Silver noted the Town of Bloomfield approved the 3.19% Board of Education proposed budget increase. Dr. Silver also thanked the Town for funded the Summer Early Start program that will run in July 2024.

It was further reported the Alliance funds increase was approved at the state level and therefore Bloomfield accurately accounted for this funding in the proposed 2024-2025 budget. In addition, the district included a 58% cap on Magnet School Tuition, per current legislation for the 2024-2025 budget.

The committee discussed the possibly of an interest bearing account for the non-lapsing account capital account (1% set aside). It was noted this account can be increase to 2% per changes in legislation.

A Board member inquired why summer programs are not extended into August. It was noted that many maintenance projects are completed during the month of August.



It was also shared that principals identify students and the program is open to all Bloomfield students.

B. Budget Status – Closing of FY 23/24

Mr. Domenic Greco, Director of Accounting shared a report on the status of closing out the 2023-2024 budget. He noted that all directors and administrative assistants were notified in April to start closing out or modifying purchase orders so the Business Office can get a more accurate calculation of the budget.

Ms. Elisa Pierce, District Grants Specialist noted they are working to spend down grant funds.

A Board member inquired the funds balance in the non-lapsing account and it was noted this is at approximately \$384,000.

The district is starting off the 2024-2025 school year with a balanced budget. Some areas of savings and overages were shared for the current 2023-2024 FY budget.

A priority list of projects from the facilities department was shared. Some projects include floor tiles, painting, parking lot striking and fire alarms.

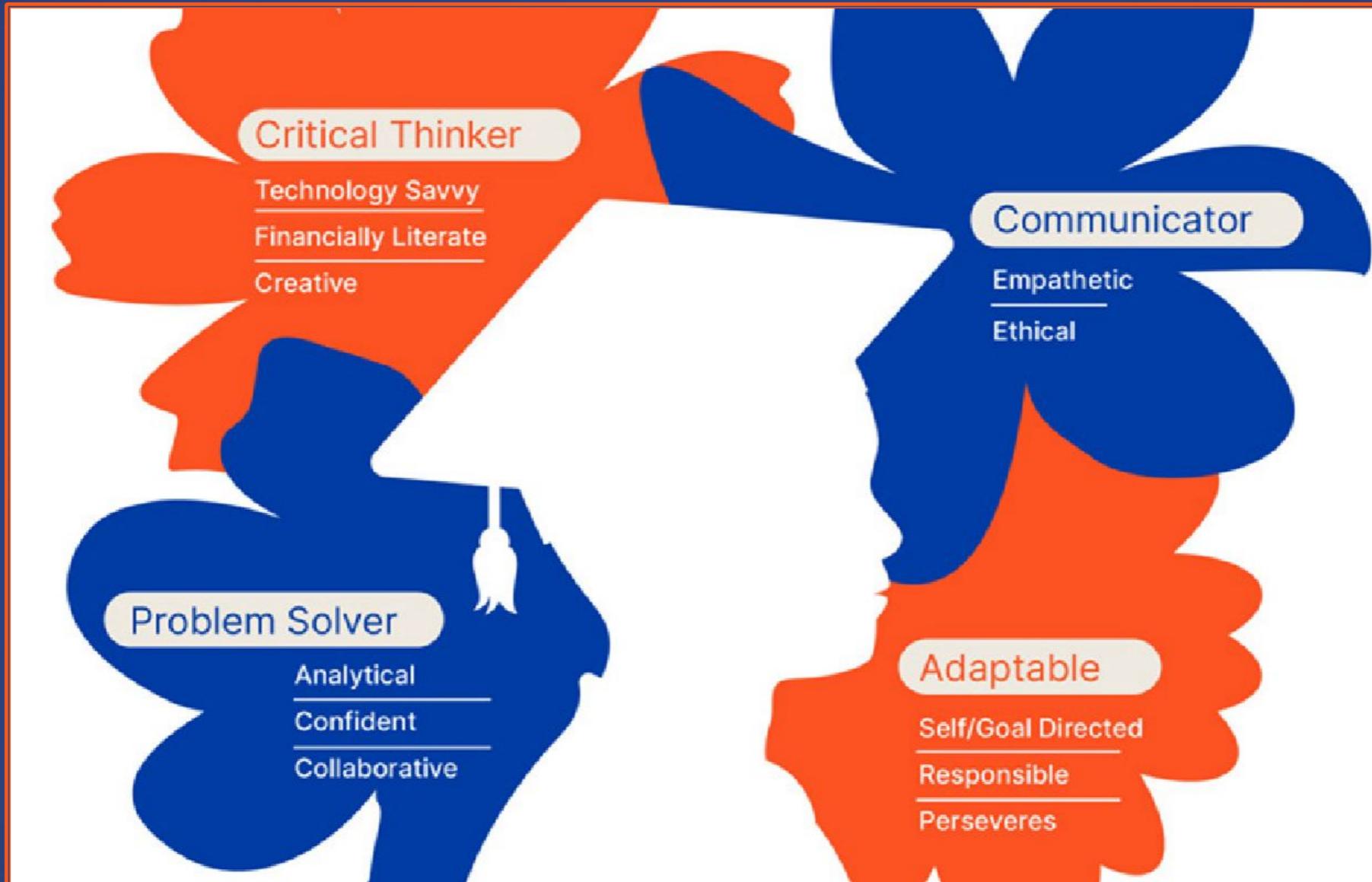
4. Adjournment

At 6:39 p.m., a motion was made by L. Easmon and seconded by K. Dunbar to adjourn.

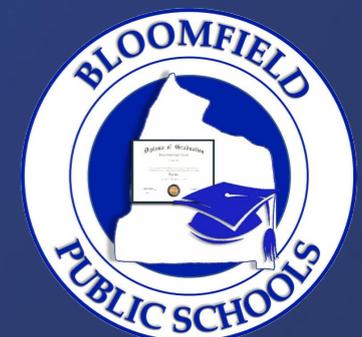
The motion passed unanimously 2-0-0.

K. Dunbar, Committee Chair

Graduates In Bloom



**Alliance District Grant
Board of Education
Finance Committee
September 24, 2024**



Lisa Lamenzo

Director of School Improvement

Elisa Pierce

Grants Specialist



Overview

Purpose

To inform the Board of Education Finance Committee on the Alliance District Grant

Process

Review legislative requirements and BPS resource allocation

Payoff

Understand how Alliance Grant operates to support district improvement efforts



What is an Alliance District?

- Alliance Districts are 33 of Connecticut's lowest-performing school districts according to the state's Next Generation Accountability System, which is comprised of 12 indicators intended to show how well a district or school is preparing its students for success in and outside of the classroom.
- Any district designated as an Alliance District will be labeled as such for five years.
- Alliance Districts are identified through a four-step process and are eligible for additional state education aid and programmatic supports to help improve the district's ability to increase student outcomes and close the opportunity gap.

Alliance District Requirements:

- Yearly, Alliance District must submit a detailed plan to the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) describing how the district will use Alliance funds to improve student performance.
- Plan must be approved by the commissioner of the CSDE.
- Alliance District funding is released to a district.
- The CSDE reviews the district's progress toward its goals annually to determine whether the district is making sufficient progress for funding to be continued.

Alliance District Plan Requirements

According to statute, a district's Alliance District Plan may include, but is not limited to, the following strategies:

- Tiered interventions for schools, based on the need of the specific school;
- K-3 foundational reading programs;
- Additional learning time, (extended day or extended year)
- A talent strategy to attract, retain, promote, and bolster staff performance in the form of performance evaluations or other indicators of success;
- Training for staff, administration, and teachers on different teacher evaluation models;
- Early childhood education provider coordination (such as HeadStart);
- Government and community programming for student support and wraparound services;
- Strategies to attract and recruit minority teachers and administrators;
- Enhancements of bilingual education programming;
- Entering into the model school district responsibilities agreement; and
- District-specific goals such as improving bilingual education programming.

Alliance District -

Additional Accountability and Support Measures:

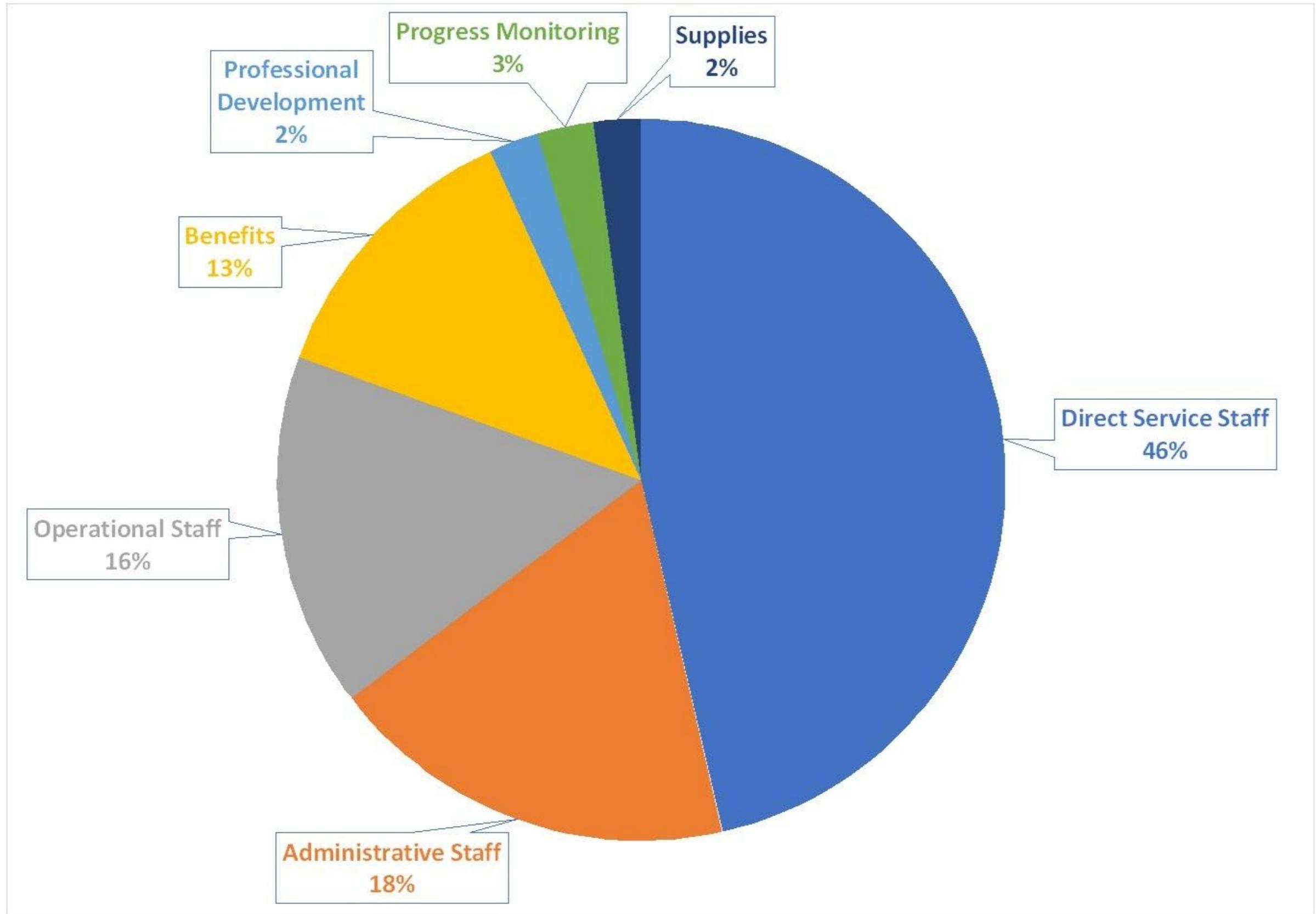
- Plan review and approval

- Monitoring Meetings three times a year
 - Progress Monitoring Tracking
 - Collaborative agenda
 - Fiscal Spend down and Revisions

- Alliance District Symposiums

- Priority to Support Opportunities

2024-2025 Alliance Grant Budget Allocations



Examples from Each Funding Area - Staffing

→ Direct Service Staff:

- ◆ Academic Interventionists and Coaches
- ◆ Gifted and Talented Teachers
- ◆ Tutors (EL, BHS, CAIS, Laurel)
- ◆ Family Engagement and Career Development

→ Administrative Staff

- ◆ District Level School Improvement Coordination
- ◆ BHS Administration

→ Operational Staff

- ◆ Student and Performance Staff
- ◆ Tech Staff
- ◆ Grants Management

→ Benefits for all staff

Examples from Each Funding Area - Other Areas of Support

- Progress Monitoring:
 - ◆ Software for Benchmark Assessments
- Professional Development
 - ◆ Building Thinking Classrooms
 - ◆ PD WINS
 - ◆ Laurel Literacy Academy
 - ◆ Instructional Coach Training
- Supplies
 - ◆ Supplies supporting PD (PD WINS, Building Thinking Classrooms, Laurel Literacy Academy)
 - ◆ Family Engagement and Career Development
 - ◆ Office of School Improvement

Next Steps

- October 8, 2024- BPS BOE Agenda Item
- CSDE Alliance Grant Submission

Thank you

