



# School Action Fund (SAF)

**LASO Cycle 3**

**Redesign Action**

October 30, 2024



# Welcome and Thank you for Joining Today!



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# Agenda

## LASO Cycle 3

SAF in LASO 3  
Grants Available

## School Action Fund (SAF)

Overview  
SAF: Redesign Action  
Resources, Next Steps, and Q&A

## Next Steps

## FYIs



Submit questions during the webinar using the Zoom Q&A



Webinar slides and recordings will be posted on the [LASO Cycle 3 website](#) after all webinars have been completed



Email [LASO@tea.texas.gov](mailto:LASO@tea.texas.gov) with follow-up questions

# Today's Objectives

Participants will:

- Understand the why, what, and how of the Redesign School Action
- Understand what the Planning Period and Continuation/Implementation Years will include
- Discuss real-world examples of the Redesign School Action and Models



# LASO Cycle 3



# LASO Cycle 3 will award \$160M to LEAs

Includes 11 grants to support learning acceleration



## Curriculum & Instruction

Strong Foundations Planning

Strong Foundations Implementation

SFI School Improvement PLC Supports

Instructional Leadership

Technology Lending Grant

Blended Learning Grant

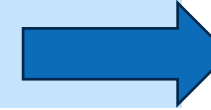
Advanced Placement Computer Science Principles



## More Time

ADSY Full Year

ADSY Summer Planning and Execution Program



## Innovative School Models

School Action Fund


Early College High School

Pathways in Technology  
Early College High School

# School Action Fund (Cycle 9), LASO 3

The School Action Fund is designed to support districts in planning and implementing a whole school model. SAF's ultimate goal is for every campus we support to be rated A or B at the end of two years of implementation.

**Innovative School Models**



Innovative school models to incorporate all aspects of the learning acceleration framework

<b>Estimated Total Funding Available</b>	\$8 Million-Direct
<b>Estimated Range of Award</b>	\$185K - \$375K per campus
<b>Estimated Award Numbers</b>	36 campuses
<b>Estimated Timeline: Planning Grants</b>	March 2025 – June 2026
<b>Estimated Timeline: Implementation Grants</b>	SY 2025 – 2026

# School Action Fund

SAF Eligibility

Theory of Action

Benefits of SAF

Impact

How to select an Action

Actions and Models included in LASO 3

Elements of Successful Actions

Why Redesign?



## Purpose

School actions are **whole-school strategies** districts use to increase access to high-quality schools by meeting community needs an/or addressing chronic underperformance.

The 4 school actions that TEA supports are:

- Restart an existing school
- Create a new school
- Reassign students to high performing campuses after school closure
- Redesign an existing school

## Eligibility

### Eligibility

Title 1  
**and**  
Federal Accountability  
Designation:

- CSI
- TSI
- Not ATS

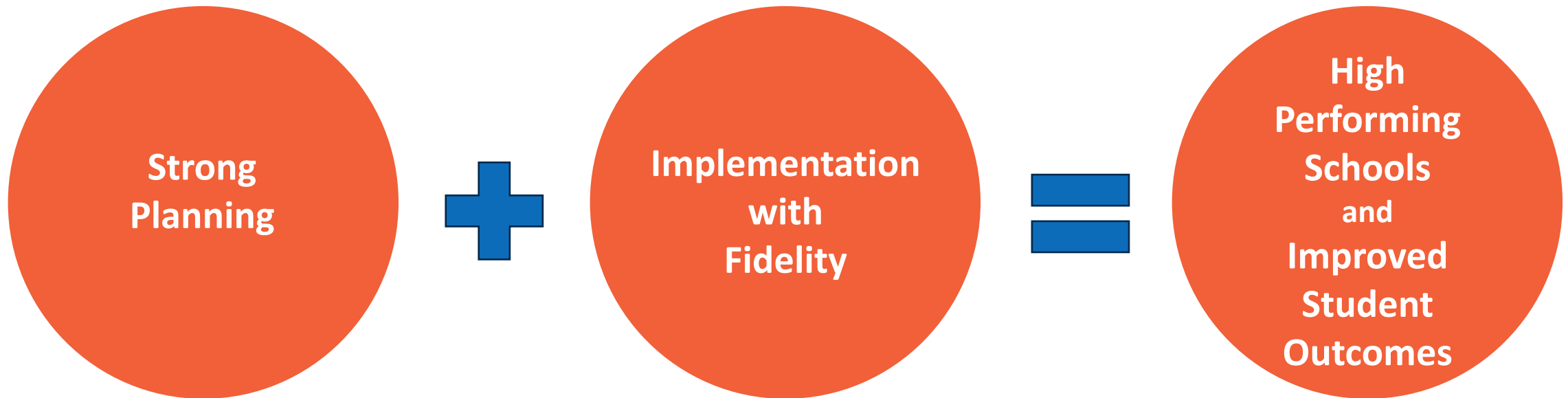
Not previously awarded SAF, since 2019-2020

## Best Fit For

Districts interested in:

- transforming **campus and district systems** to enable better student experiences.
- Dramatically improving for **chronically underperforming campuses**.
- Creating **new school options** for families.
- **Integrating multiple strategies** such as HQIM, RBIS, and new academic and staffing models.

*If district and campus leaders are supported to plan deeply every aspect of the school action and implement that plan with fidelity, then more students will have access to high-quality learning environments and outcomes will dramatically improve.*



# What's included in a School Action Fund grant?

## Technical Assistance



**Pre-approved TA providers** with deep content expertise to support planning and implementation

## Tools & Resources



Access to tailored tools and resources from TEA

## Funding



**Planning** (1 year): approx. \$185k per school  
**Continuation** (up to 2 years): \$375k-\$500k per school

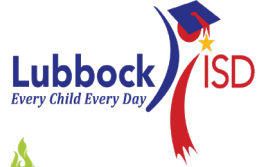
## Leader Professional Development



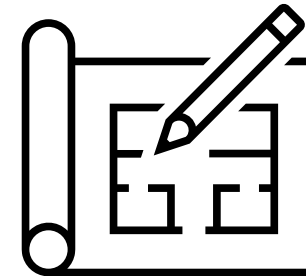
Opportunities for school leaders to participate in action-specific **professional development** or **school design programs**

The Center for School Actions ([CSA](#)) works with campuses and LEAs to support strategic decision-making to identify and select best-fit school actions. Visit their website for tools, resources, and webinars.

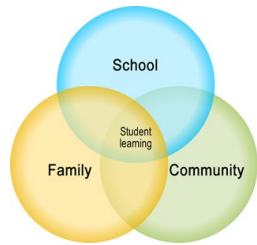
90 LEAs across all 20 ESCs



295+ School Actions  
Awarded/Planned/Implemented



More than \$232 million in direct-district grants  
and in-kind support



Community  
Engagement



HQIM



Professional  
Development

133,000+ students impacted



## Step 1: Select an Action



### 1. Restart an Under-Performing School

- New leader and mostly new teachers
- New academic program implemented in Year 1 (not phased in)



### 2. Create a New School

- New school w/new CDCN phased in one grade level at a time
- New school leader, new teachers, new academic program



### 3. Redesign an Existing School

- New academic program implemented in Year 1 (not phased in)



### 4. Reassign Students to a High-Performing Campus

- Students reassigned to A/B rated campuses following deep community engagement and student and family support
- Campus closed in Year 1 w/ transition support provided to students in receiving schools

## Step 2: Select a Governance Type

### A. District- Run

- Flexibility from district policy/ practice required

### B. 1882 Partnership \$

- Must meet all 1882 designation requirements

### C. Governance Type and Model: N/A

- Target campus will close
- Students may be assigned to any A/B-rated campus in district, regardless of governance type or model

## Step 3: Identify school model

1. ACE
2. Advanced STEM\*
3. ADSY Full Year \$



4. Turnaround Partnership \$
  - F-rated campuses, Restart only
  - Eligible for pause in accountability sanctions
5. Innovation Partnership \$

\*Advanced STEM is available to Elementary and Middle schools **only**

*\$ Actions/ Models that yield additional sustained funding opportunities.*

Note: Planning and/or implementation grants available. Districts already working with an approved TA provider may elect to apply for an implementation grant.

# Elements of Successful School Actions

*Regardless of action or model, all School Action Fund campuses will include the following elements:*

**Effective School  
Framework (ESF)  
alignment**

**High Quality  
Instructional  
Materials (HQIM)**

**Research based  
instructional  
strategies (RBIS)**

**Strategic  
Scheduling**

**Campus Leader  
with a track  
record of success**

# Selecting an Action

The School Action [Self-Assessment](#):

- Helps spark conversation conversations with your fellow district leaders, your school board, and your families.
- Provides a starting place to understand which actions are the most likely to align with your school and community assets and needs.

*Recommendations you will receive within this tool are created based off formulas. **This tool is not an exact science.** You know your district best, so please keep the human element in mind as you work through the assessment.*



# Why choose the Redesign Action?

- Deliver a **comprehensive change** to a school's climate and outcomes, while maintaining a **neighborhood district school**, by transforming it into a high-quality option for families
- Offer students and teachers **resources** and **support** in an innovative model that has a **strong track record of success in Texas schools**
- **Empower a strong leader** to transform the school with highly qualified educators and staff

# What are the Key Elements of SAF Redesign?

## Same Staff

- The campus may keep **the same leader, staff, and students.**
- The campus keeps its CDCN.
- Not a phase-in model
  - Does not require a new building

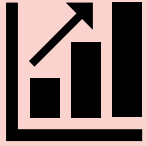
## New School Model

- Substantial **changes to instruction and practices** to improve student outcomes tailored to student needs.
- Includes adding research-based teaching strategies, and curriculum enhancements

## Whole School Approach

- Create a holistic and nurturing learning environment through **enhanced support services or model-specific programming** such as counseling, tutoring, college and career exploration and pathways, and extracurricular activities.

# Key Benefits of Redesign Actions



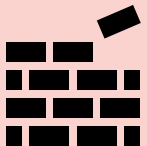
Improved Academic Performance



Retention of Current Leadership and Teachers



Responsive to Local Context



Long-Term Sustainability

# How will the action be implemented?

- Learn about SAF
- Determine Action/Model
- Apply for SAF in LASO 3

- Launch Action
- Progress Monitoring of Model and Student Outcomes
- Set Year 2 priorities
- Sustainability Planning

Pre-Planning

Year 1

Sustainability

Planning Period

Year 2

- Engage Stakeholders
- Develop School Design Plan and Campus Performance Agreement
- Develop 2-year implementation plan
- Apply for Continuation Funds

- Continue Model Implementation
- Progress Monitoring of Model and Student Outcomes
- Finalize Sustainability Plans

School Models are evidence-based, ESF-aligned approaches that districts can implement as best fit school options for students.

## ACE

The five pillars of the ACE model are:

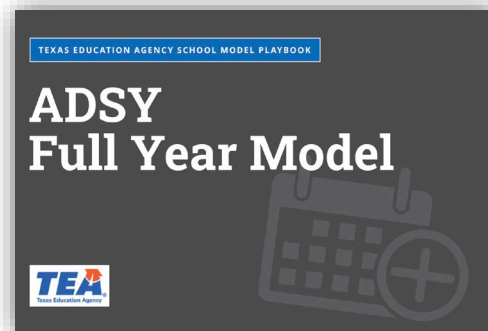
- Strategic Staffing
- Instructional Excellence
- Extended Learning Time
- Wraparound Supports
- Partnerships with Parental and Community Organizations



## ADSY Full Year

The three components of the ADSY Full Year model are:

- Extended Year (up to 210 days)
- Reimagined schedule to increase teacher planning time
- Student Brain Breaks
- Must include an elementary grade level

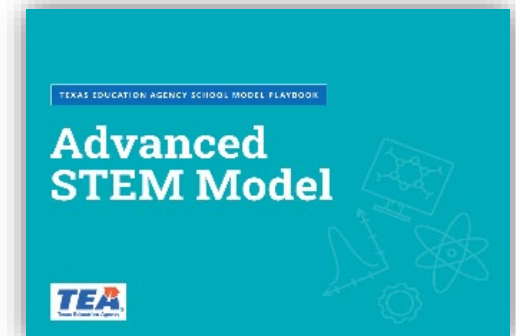


## Advanced STEM

The elements of the Advanced STEM model are:

- STEM integration
- Applied Learning
- Instructional Excellence
- Schoolwide Culture of Innovation

**NOTE:** Elementary and Middle schools **only**



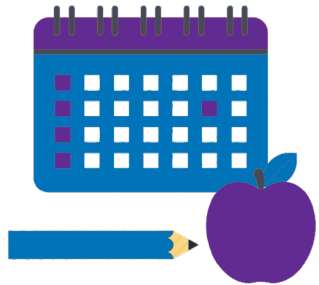
# School Action Fund Model

# Redesign Action

- ADSY FY Model and Example
  - Must include an elementary grade level
- (Advanced) STEM and Example
  - Elementary and Middle Schools **only**

# Redesign Action – ADSY Full Year

## ADSY Allows for Strategic Use of Time



### Full Year Redesign

- **Purpose:** Rethinking the School Day; PK-5 or K-5 only
- **Think:** A revamped up to 210- day calendar, with strategic schedules that increase teacher planning time and student whole child supports

#### *Teacher Planning Time*



**Reimagine the  
Teaching Job**

#### *Brain Breaks*

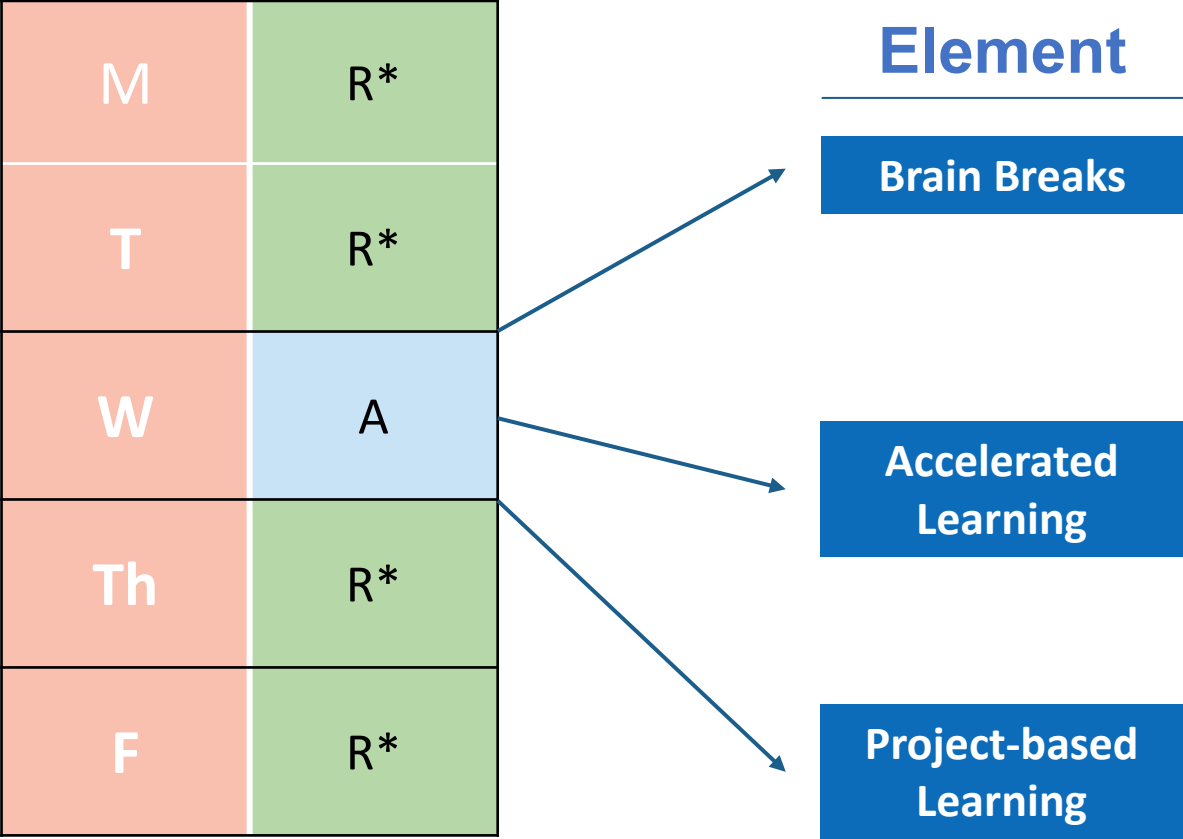


**Accelerate &  
Enrich Learning**



**Strengthen Whole-  
Child Supports**

# Example of Strategic Scheduling



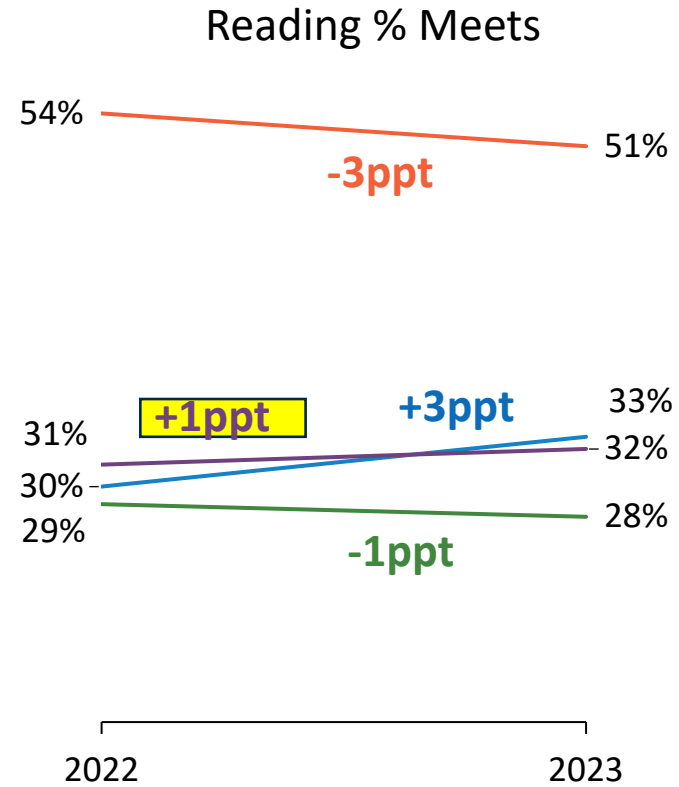
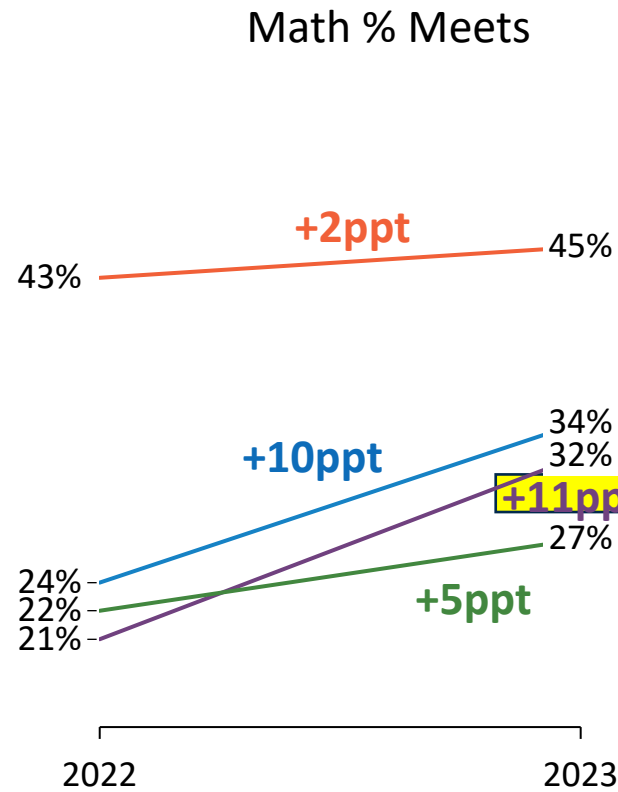
Regular School Day	ADSY Day
15 minutes per day	30 minutes per day
30 minutes of whole child support time	
45 minutes of specials	90 minutes of project-based learning time
290 minutes of academic instruction	210 minutes of accelerated math and reading learning time
20 minutes of individualized learning time	30 minutes of individualized learning time



# Students who participated in ADSY PEP or ADSY FYR saw larger gains

## Outcomes by ADSY Model

- Non-ADSY (1M)
- ADSY PEP Summer (6.7k)
- **ADSY FYR (1.1k)**
- ADSY Non-PEP (12k)





Through an ADSY FY Redesign, the David L. Walker team was able to:

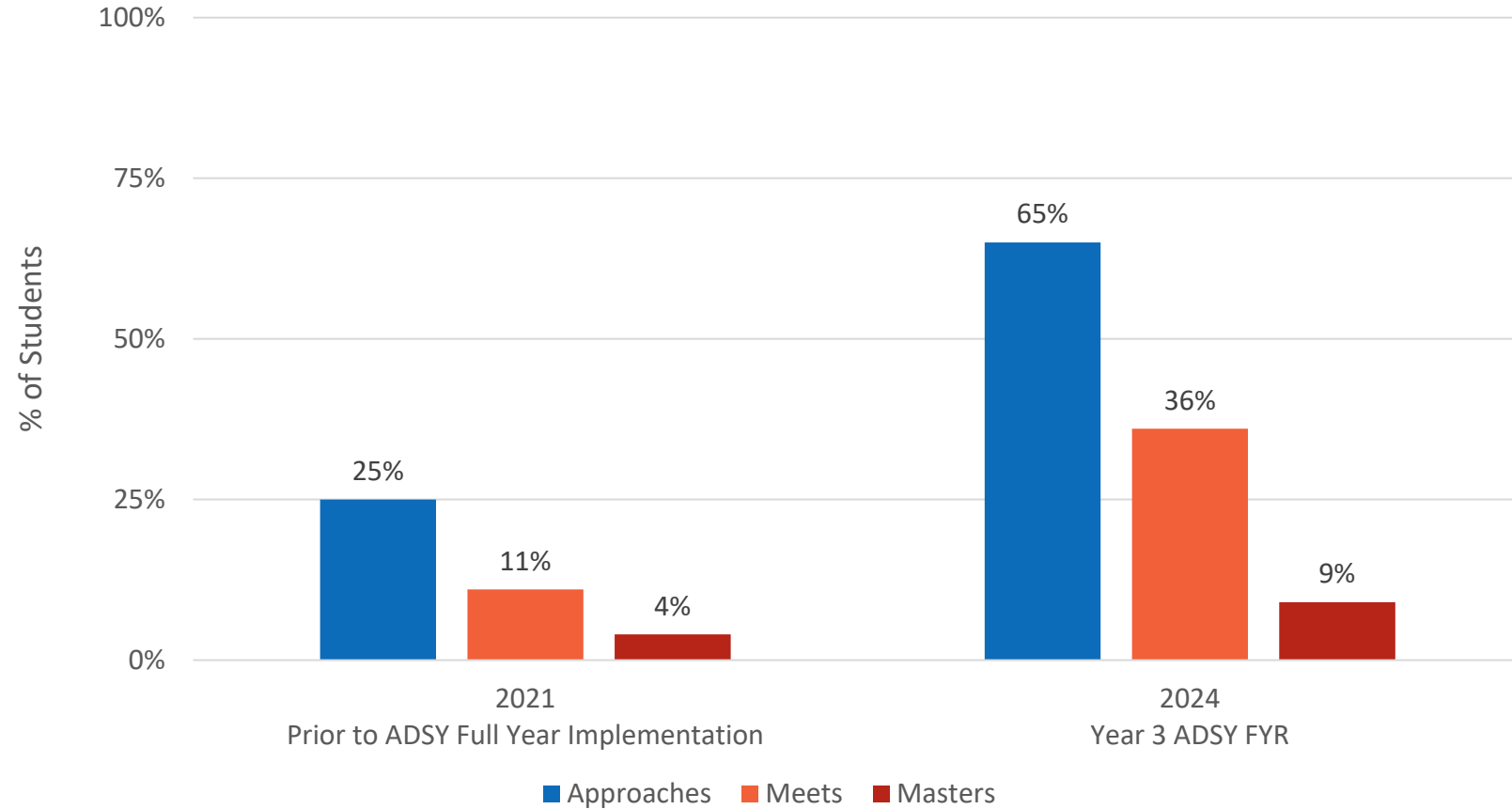
- **Build Relationships**
  - Emphasize the “School Family” and normalize behavioral expectations.
- **Accelerate Learning**
  - Focus on essential learning standards and revisit challenge areas with targeted student interventions.
- **Provide Additional Planning Time**
  - Teachers had more time for planning, data analysis, and collaboration with grade-level and content peers
- **Engage in Curriculum-Aligned Enrichment**
  - Improve student engagement and joy for learning
- **Improve Student Outcomes**
  - Earned an “A” rating in 2022, completing a transition from one of the lowest performing campuses to the highest performing campus in the district.

## Campus Info

Region: ESC 11  
 Enrollment: 414  
 Ecodis: 99%  
 At-Risk: 56%  
 EB: 20%  
 SPED: 12%



Overall STAAR Achievement Rates by Performance Standard



Sources:  
 2022-2023 Texas Academic Performance Reports (TAPR), Texas Education Agency  
 STAAR Data retrieved from the [Texas Assessment Research Portal](#)

# Redesign Action – Advanced STEM

Elementary and Middle Schools only

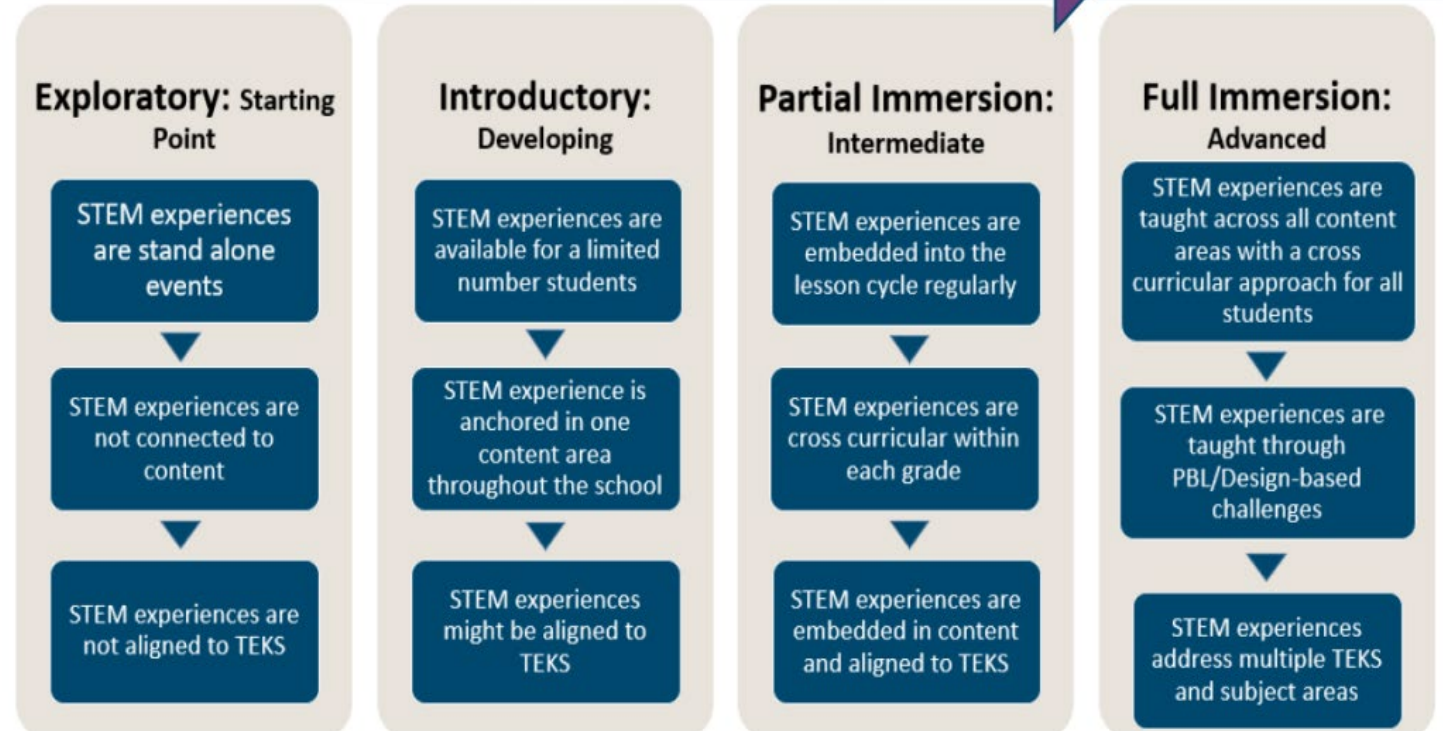


Advanced STEM

STEM Model Progression

The Advanced STEM model includes:

- STEM Integration/Cross-curricular experiences
- Applied/Hands-on learning
- STEM Integration/Cross-curricular experiences
- Instructional Excellence/STEM: “everywhere, every day” – beyond state standards
- Schoolwide Culture of Innovation/Design-based thinking

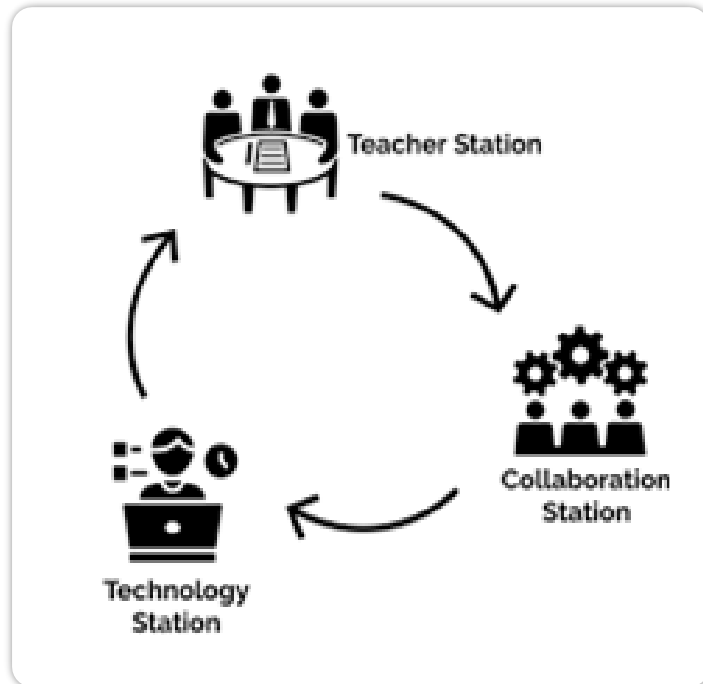


Prior SAF Cycles

LASO 3 → Beyond

# David Daniels EL Academy of Science and Math, Grand Prairie ISD

## Blended Learning Model: Station Rotation



## SAF supported Planning and Implementation through:

- **STEM Alignment:** Redesigned campus bridges to secondary STEM programs.
- **Community Access:** Provided neighborhood access to STEM education, making STEM more accessible to Grand Prairie ISD families.
- **Curriculum:** Aligned to the STEM focus of the campus
- **Blended Learning:** Station rotation model supported targeted instruction through small group instruction and online learning
- **Scale:** Grand Prairie ISD is expanding access to STEM programming through the School Action Fund in LASO 2.

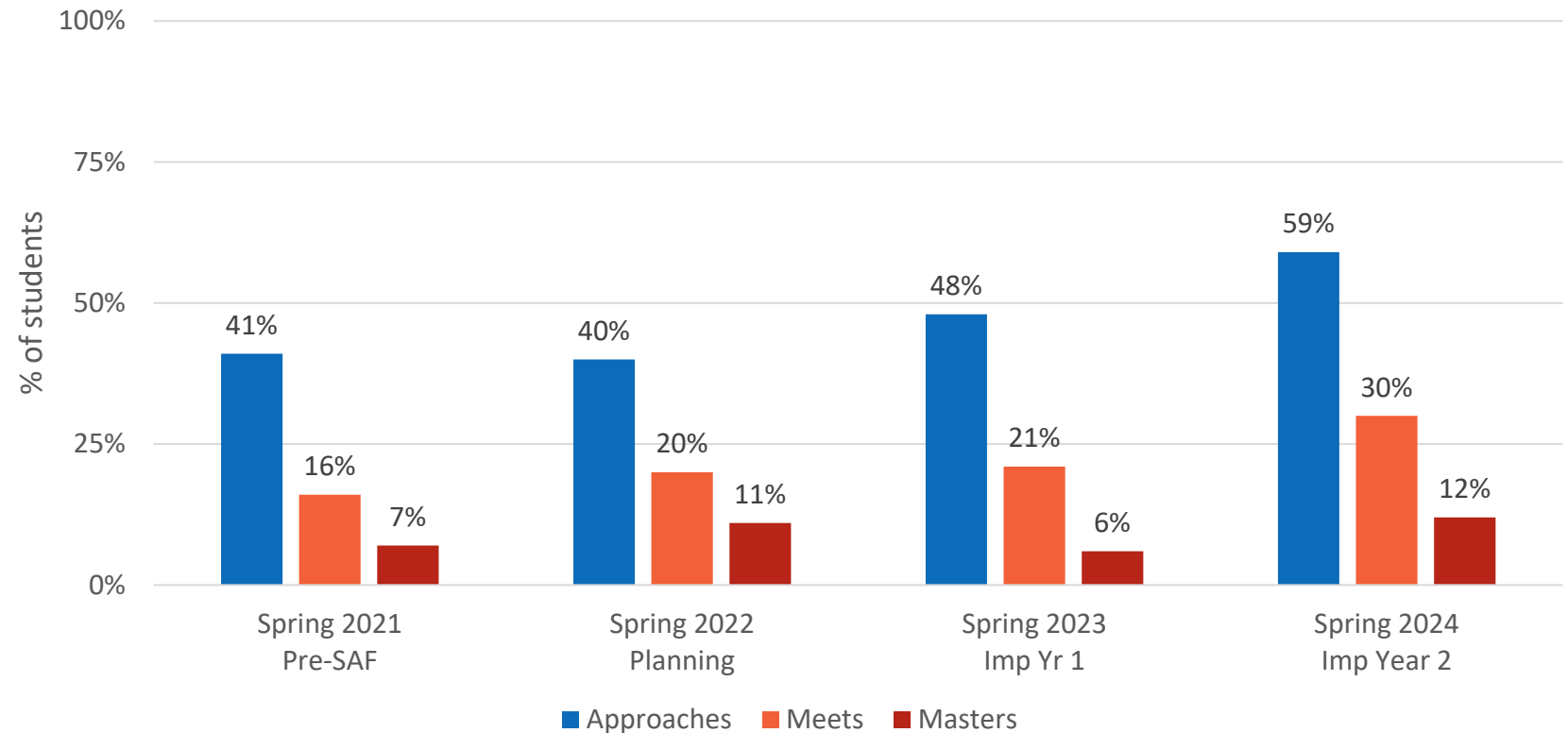
# David Daniels EL Academy of Science and Math, Grand Prairie ISD

## Campus Info

Region: ESC 10  
 Enrollment:  
 Ecodis: 95%  
 At-Risk: 80%  
 EB: 40%  
 SPED: 10%



Overall STAAR Achievement Rates by Performance Standard



**Sources:**

2022-2023 Texas Academic Performance Reports (TAPR), Texas Education Agency  
 STAAR Data retrieved from the [Texas Assessment Research Portal](#)

# School Action Fund Resources

## LASO 3 Next Steps

## Q&A

### **SAF Resources**

### **LASO 3 Next Steps**

Timeline

Submission

Application

Resources

Change Request and Declines

## School Model Playbooks

- Center for School Action [website](#)
  - ACE
  - ADSY Full Year
  - Advanced STEM

## Other Resources

- School Actions [Self-Assessment](#)
- Texas Partnerships [website](#)
  - Texas Partnerships Guide
  - TEA Authorizer Handbook

## HQIM and RBIS Resources:

- SBOE [website](#)
  - Instructional Materials Review and Approval Content and Suitability Rubrics
- TEA [website](#) – HQIM and OER
- Strong Foundations [website](#) – RBIS



# Center for School Actions

<b>Office Hours</b>	<a href="#">Nov. 1   10:00-11:00 AM</a> <a href="#">Nov. 7   9:00-10:00 AM</a>
<b>Schedule a 1:1 Call</b>	<a href="#">Schedule a private call with the Center for School Actions Team</a>  Sarah Gudenkauf is the Director of Systems Innovation at MAYA Consulting. She is an SGS Executive Advisor and has supported multiple school districts in implementing School Action Fund grants.



# LASO Cycle 3 Timeline

TEA opens application on 10/14

TEA closes application on 12/13 at 5:00 p.m. **CT**

TEA announces awards on 2/20 (tentative)

TEA issues NOGAs by 5/24



TEA publishes FAQ

TEA scores applications and conducts interviews with LEAs (if applicable)

LEAs accept awards and submit budgets in eGrants by 3/24

*LEAs must complete this step for NOGAs to be issued*



**LEAs must  
submit LASO  
Cycle 3  
applications by  
December 13 at  
5:00pm CST**



TEA emailed unique application links to LEA superintendents on October 14 (if needed, LEAs can complete a [Request for Application Link Form](#) to receive a new link)



PDF of the application is posted on the [LASO Cycle 3 website](#); however, LEAs must submit the application through Qualtrics using the unique application link



Applications must be signed by the superintendent to be accepted

# LASO application window open: October 14, 2024 – December 13, 2024, 5:00 PM CT



## Application Window

October 14-December 13

## SAF Office Hours

November 4, 2024 | 11:00 am – 12:00 pm



## SAF Program Webinars

October 17- 25

- Restart Action [webinar](#)  
October 28, 2024 | 1:00 -2:00 pm
- Reassign Action [webinar](#)  
October 29, 2024 | 1:00 -2:00 pm
- Redesign Action [webinar](#)  
October 30, 2024 | 1:00 -2:00 pm
- Create New Action [webinar](#)  
October 31, 2024 | 2:00 -3:00 pm



## Next Steps

**Visit** the LASO 3 website to familiarize with included grant offerings.

**Communicate and** share the information with LEA internal teams to support the decision-making process on which sets of grants to apply for.

**Register** for our upcoming informational webinars.



## Resources Available

- [Best Fit Guidance](#) provides criteria to help determine if a grant fits LEAs needs
- [Grant One Pagers](#) provide preliminary grant eligibility and key commitments
- [Eligibility and Prioritization Guidance Doc](#) provides information to help determine the likelihood of being awarded



**REGISTRATION**

Find all LASO related supports - including timelines, webinars, and planning tools - at [tea.texas.gov/LASO](https://tea.texas.gov/LASO)

# Questions?



## Office Hours

Attend office hours for technical assistance or discussion with program teams  
November 4, 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. [Registration Link](#)

## FAQs

Review the general FAQ (updated FAQs will be posted by November 13th)



## Email

- For questions about the application process or technical assistance with the application, contact [LASO@tea.texas.gov](mailto:LASO@tea.texas.gov)
- For questions about SAF grants, contact [Laura.Hyatt@tea.texas.gov](mailto:Laura.Hyatt@tea.texas.gov)

