

BUILDING NEEDS ASSESSMENT

2023-2024 Building Needs Assessment for 2024-2025 Budget Considerations

Building Meadowlark Ridge Elementary School Grades Served PK-5

Se	ection 1: Student Needs	Response	Description
A.	Student Headcount	432	
B.	Percentage of students with an active IEP	24.5%	
C.	Percentage of students enrolled in English Language	4.8%	
	Learner (ELL) services		
D.	Percentage of students identified as At-Risk (Free	29.6% free	
	lunch)?	4.3%	
		reduced	
E.	Pupil-teacher ratio average	1 teacher	
		to 19.29	
		students	
F.	Pupil-teacher ratio median	1 teacher	
		to 20	
		students	
G.	Are the needs of foster care students being met? If not,	No	Current State: Our social worker helps with students
	what supports are needed?		in foster care. She is the liaison between the foster
			parent, case worker agency, and school. She sees
			students for emotional support if needed. We also
			have the backpack program, Clothes for Kids program,
			and assist with free community resources. Students in
			foster care often move in and the school has no
			immediate information on them. Phone numbers

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H. Are there gaps in student success among race/ethnicity student subgroups?	Yes	aren't always on caseworkers' forms. Biological parents' names aren't always disclosed. This makes getting paperwork signed difficult when they are still the legal guardians. The EEISPF form is not generally filled out completely. School doesn't ever receive updated information. Desired State: We would like some information before the student starts coming to school. We would like to know upfront the name of the case worker, the educational advocate, who has the parental rights, history of trauma, IEP status, and any other services they receive at school. Having this information early helps us to better make a successful plan for the child. Current State: State assessment results from last year show that the subgroup of white students scored better overall than non-white, Hispanic, and African-American students. Non-white students have higher numbers of 1s and 2s, while white students show more scores of 3s and 4s.
		American students. Non-white students have higher numbers of 1s and 2s, while white students show
		Desired State: We would like to provide the appropriate support to close these gaps (small group instruction, interventions, and tutoring). There is not one intervention that works for all students. Their needs vary, so having multiple avenues to provide support for all students is necessary. Involving parents within the school will help with collaboration efforts in a student's success.

Is there a tiered system of support to target reading	Yes	Current State: We have an At-Risk reading teacher who teaches
growth?		reading intervention groups. Due to the building
		schedule, she's only able to see groups in 4 of the 6
		grade levels per day. She is not able to see
		Kindergarten or 5th grade this year. To date, she sees
		32 students per day during small group reading interventions. Those students receive 60 minutes of
		separate instruction and stations on phonics and PA
		gaps, comprehension, and fluency.
		We have an interventionist who teaches small group
		math and reading, as well as tutors students
		throughout the day. This interventionist has been
		used this year to see 3 grade levels of Reading groups in addition to the math intervention groups she sees.
		For ELA, she works with kindergarten, 2nd grade, and
		5th because the numbers of students with additional
		support needed are too high to accommodate with
		only the at risk position. She currently works with 19
		students in ELA and 14 students in math.
		We also have a Roving Teacher who is able to work
		with small groups for tutoring and individually when
		she is not subbing. She sees 23 students per day when
		she's not pulled to sub. Of those 23 students, 5 are with an ELA focus. Because she is often pulled for
		subbing positions, it has been easier to utilize her in
		math interventions than Reading.

			All 3 teachers work with many students throughout the day and are able to increase scores and confidence. Last year, 32/34 students increased their iReady math scores from fall to spring. The average growth was 32 points. 20/24 students increased their BAS levels. 14/14 students increased their high frequency words. 12/17 students increased their number of phonics skills mastered.
			This year, our interventionist has worked with certain kindergarten students on letter sounds and names. Of the 7 she has worked with, all of them made progress in all areas.
			Desired State: Once ESSER funding is complete, we'd like to be able to maintain the 1 interventionist position and the 1 roving sub position that we have hired. Only having 1 at risk reading teacher makes it difficult to provide appropriate interventions and support for all the students who need it. Without the interventionist position, the schedule for our at risk teacher would only allow services for 4-5 of the grade levels. We would like to be able to provide small group intervention in each grade level and have the option of providing more than one intervention when the need arises as it has this year in 2nd grade.
J.	Is there a tiered system of support to target math growth?	Yes	Current State: We have an interventionist that was hired with ESSER money. She teaches small groups in math and reading as well as tutors students during the day. She teaches

		small group math in 1st grade, 3rd grade and 4th grade. She works with 14 total students in those groups and also has time set aside for individual tutoring as the need comes up.
		Our roving sub position was also hired with ESSER money. She works with small groups and tutors when she is not subbing. We have found that it was easier to absorb those students back into the classroom, when she is pulled suddenly to sub, in math. Therefore, she works with a total of 23 students per day when she's not pulled to sub. Of those 23 students, 18 are with a math focus.
		Desired State: Before this position, we had no outside intervention available in math for our students with needs that are not identified as receiving special education services. The only intervention for math skills was provided within the classroom in short periods of time on rotation. We'd like to be able to maintain these 2 positions to enable us to continue with interventions in both Reading and Math after ESSER funding ends. The flexibility to use one of these positions as a roving sub has been critical in ensuring burn out doesn't occur with classroom teachers.
K. Are there local assessments to measure reading growth?	Yes	BAS, i-Ready Diagnostic, RDA, FastBridge, Into Reading module assessments
L. Are there local assessments to measure math growth?	Yes	i-Ready Diagnostic, Eureka math assessments, math fluency assessments

M. Are there learning opportunities for students to focus on academic needs outside the traditional classroom setting?	Yes	Arts Infusion Program, Kansas Kids Fitness Day, Assemblies, Field Trips, Stiefel Theatre, Community Theatre, William Allen White Trip, Mr. Beach, Starbase, Body Venture, Virtual Author Visits, Zoo Experiences. Funding for most of this comes from our PTO.
N. Reviewing state assessment data, what steps are you taking for all students to maximize their scores?		 Allowing teachers the flexibility to take longer and re-teach concepts as needed. Interims for state assessments. This helps students become familiar with the format. It also gives teachers an idea of what they need to re-teach and helps guide instruction. The Into Reading assessments are similar in format and rigor to the state assessments. Our new reading curriculum aligns more to the state assessment format. We are building stamina by allowing students to temporarily struggle with passages before we intervene. This helps them prepare for the required independence of the state assessment. Visible Learning, including learning intentions and success criteria. Math fluency progress monitoring quarterly. Using Reflex Math as a resource to increase fluency with struggling students. I-Ready practice 40 minutes a week for math and 40 minutes a week for reading. Leveled small group math and reading groups with our interventionist, at risk teacher, and roving sub (when available).

		 Tutoring with our interventionist and roving sub (when available) After school tutoring for Tier 2 students (if parents agree and if we have teachers willing to do it). This has been paid for with ESSER funds and will not be able to continue next year. We found great success with one on one and small group tutoring. 40 students were tutored throughout the year after school. 15/15 students increased their BAS level, 12/15 students increased their fluency scores, 17/17 students increased at least one skill on the phonics continuum. 8/8 students increased their targeted skills for math intervention. Desired State: Next year, there is a possibility that a new math curriculum will be implemented. It is the same series currently used but upgraded. This would align with the Visible Learning structure of learning intentions and success criteria. Continue using 3 at-risk/intervention teachers to support individual student needs.
O. Are there set targets/goals to move students out of proficiency Levels 1 and 2 on state assessments?	Yes	Current Building Goals: Students will have the <i>critical thinking skills</i> to achieve postsecondary success, as <i>measured by a 10% increase in the number of students performing at a level 3 or 4</i> (above grade level) on the <u>Kansas Math Assessment by 2027.</u>

Last year, we showed the following in increasing our 3s and 4s in math;

3rd: 46% to 54% 4th: 51% to 49% 5th: 45% to 50%

Students will have the *critical thinking skills* to achieve postsecondary success, as measured by an 8% decrease in the number of students performing at a level 1 (below grade level) on the <u>Kansas Math Assessment</u> by 2027.

Last year, we showed the following in decreasing our students who scored at a level 1.

3rd: 23% to 18% 4th: 8% to 10% 5th: 26% to 18%

Students will have the *communication* skills to achieve postsecondary success, as measured by a 10% increase in the number of students performing at a level 3 or 4 (above grade level) on the <u>Kansas Reading</u> Assessment by 2027.

Last year, we showed the following in increasing our 3s and 4s in ELA:

3rd: 38% to 51% 4th: 51% both years 5th: 54% to 52%

Students will have the *communication skills* to achieve postsecondary success, as *measured by a 10%* decrease in the number of students performing at a

level 1 (below grade level) on the Kansas Reading
Assessment by 2027.
Last year, we showed the following scores in
decreasing our 1s in ELA;
3rd: 38% to 18%
4th: 14% both years
5th: 22% to 21%
Desired: In order to continue making gains towards
these goals we need to be able to utilize our 3 at-
risk/interventionist positions funded by ESSER. These
positions are able to provide supports addressing
individual student gaps. This allows for classroom
teachers to continue working on grade-level content
within their teaching; meeting all student learning
needs.

Section 2: State Board of Education Outcomes	Response	Description
A. How is social/emotional growth being measured?		Current State:
		Teachers refer students to the counselor or social worker to work on specific SEL goals. Second Step is taught by the counselor weekly. Chronic absenteeism and discipline referrals are monitored. Social emotional rubric is used on each student quarterly. Our full time social worker has met with 37 students
		continuously over the past year; meeting weekly. She has worked with 15 students in a small group setting.
		Additionally, she met with 22 students who were
		identified through GEIP as needing SEL interventions.

Our school counselor works with 29 students this year. This does not include crises that come up during the day. Our social worker and counselor are also able to step in and assist with behavior calls throughout the day. **Desired State:** Continue our full-time social worker position. It will be very difficult for one counselor to do all of this work effectively with the number of students who need social emotional support. Our counselor teaches Second Step a full day once a week. During this time, we need the social worker available for any social emotional needs that day. B. What are the targets/goals related to social/emotional **Building Goals:** Students will have the social-emotional skills to growth? achieve postsecondary success, as measured by a 10% decrease in the number of behavior offenses by 2027. Office Referrals last year 01: 49 30 Q2: 41 Q4: 28 Office Referrals this year Q1: 31 Q2: 35 Q3: 0 Q4: Students will have the social-emotional skills to achieve postsecondary success, as measured by an 8%

	decrease in the number of students who are chronically absent by 2027. Week 15 of the current school year has 10.9% CA Week 15 of last school year had 18.6%
C. How do you determine students are ready for	ASQ, 2 preschool sessions offered at MLR,
Kindergarten? (only if building serves Kindergarteners)	Kindergarten Camp
D. What are the targets/goals related to Kindergarten Readiness? (only if building serves Kindergarteners)	Current State: We'd like the ASQs to show that the majority of students appear to be developmentally on schedule. Teachers have conversations about students after the ASQ and Kindergarten Camp is complete. 97% of students completed the ASQ. Desired State: We'd like all students to have completed preschool. Provide time for preschool and kindergarten teachers to collaborate and align student skills. 100% of students completing the ASQ screener.
E. How are successes of Individual Plans of Study being measured?	NA
F. What are the targets/goals related to postsecondary completion/attendance? (only if building serves Grade 12)	NA
G. How are you ensuring students are civically engaged?	Pledge of Allegiance, Constitution Day, Veteran's Day program, service projects (Food Bank, Love Chloe)

Section 3: Curriculum Needs	Response	Description

A. What extended learning opportunities are provided		Current State:
(after school programs, summer school programs, etc.)?		After School Tutoring through ESSER funds, Summer School for students who qualify, field trips.
		The tutoring program that was funded through ESSER funds helped 40 students work on gaps in their learning during 20 different after school sessions. 17/17 students involved in math and phonics skills increased mastery of targeted skills. 15 of them increased their guided reading level, and 12 of the students increased their level on CBM fluency passages.
		Desired State: Continue to offer tutoring services to students within the school day. This could be done if we are able to keep our 3 at-risk/intervention positions.
B. Are there appropriate and adequate instructional materials?	No	Current State: We have plenty of instructional materials for general education students (Into Reading, Guided Reading, Eureka Math). We have some alternative curriculum for students who need it (Wilson, Fundations) Teachers have to share sets. Our EBD teachers aren't provided with a full curriculum for those students who can do academics. Desired State: • We need more time and materials for science and social studies.
		We need more modified curriculum and resources for special education students.

C. Is current technology appropriate? If no, what	Yes	One-to-one Chromebooks for each student.
technology is needed to support the curriculum?		Promethean Boards, Elmos, interactive smartboards
		in select classrooms.
		Not every student has internet access and we have no
		way of helping families get that anymore.

Section 4: Educational Capacities (pursuant to K.S.A .72-3218)	Response	Description
A. Subjects and areas of instruction necessary to meet the graduation requirements adopted by the state board of education are taught. (only if building serves Grades 10-12)	N/A	
B. Is every child in your school provided at least the following capacities?		
Sufficient oral and written communication skills to enable students to function in complex and rapidly changing civilization.	Yes	Into Reading for ELA. Our new reading curriculum focuses a lot more on grammar and writing than it used to. Teachers are using a gradual release model for writing that includes more shared writing before expecting independent tasks. Eureka math encourages student communication and critical thinking. Closely aligns with state assessment questions and skills. One-to-one Chromebooks used daily.
 Sufficient knowledge of economic, social, and political systems to enable students to make informed choices. 	No	Studies Weekly for critical thinking class every other week. Some ELA units review these topics.
 Sufficient understanding of governmental processes to enable the student to understand the issues that affect his or her community, state and nation. 	No	Constitution day. Studies Weekly for critical thinking class every other week. Some ELA units review these topics.

Sufficient self-knowledge and knowledge of his or her mental and physical wellness.	Yes	Second Step counseling once a week for all students. Conscious Discipline skills are discussed and modeled during morning meetings (one skill per month). Case managers and therapists work with students at the school through the mental health center. We have a full-time counselor and social worker within the building.
5. Sufficient grounding in the arts to enable each student to appreciate his or her cultural and historical heritage.	Yes	The district offers EPA. Every student gets music every other day. 4th and 5th graders can do Orchestra or Band, as well as after school Ukulele club. Field trips to Salina Community Theatre and the Stiefel Theatre. 1st-5th grades have art once per week.
 Sufficient training or preparation for advanced training in either academic or vocational fields so as to enable each child to choose and pursue life work intelligently. 	No	Current State: Field trips and Conscious Discipline life skills.
7. Sufficient levels of academic or vocational skills to enable students to compete favorably with their counterparts in surrounding states, in academics or in the job market.	No	Current State: Field trips, Conscious Discipline life skills, Second Step lessons with counselor, morning meetings.

Section 5: Staff Needs	Response	Description
A. Is there adequate personnel/staff to meet the needs of	No	We have 3 certified teachers who provide
the school and the needs of students under ESEA		intervention to students. (Two are paid for through
guidelines, which requires every classroom to contain an		ESSER)
educator who is certified in the content area being		At-Risk Reading Teacher: leads small group reading
		groups to target individual skill gaps for grade levels
		1-4.

taught in said classroom, and meet the goals of the school?

Certified Interventionist: Provides small group and one on one support for math and reading that targets individual skills for all grade levels. (K, 2nd, 5th Reading and 3rd, 4th, 1st Math)

Roving Sub: When not utilized as a sub this position provides specific intervention for students such as phonics, high frequency word practice, fluency instruction, and small group math instruction. They also facilitate tutoring sessions for students at all grade levels.

The at risk teacher serves 32 students currently for 60 minutes a day in small group reading time. The interventionist position serves 19 students in small group reading and 14 students in small group math, as well as some additional tutoring slots for individual student needs.

The **roving teacher serves 23 students** primarily in math for small group math and tutoring based on individual student needs, as determined through our GEIP process.

Without these two instructional positions, Students will not have any small group math intervention available outside of their classroom.

With 1 at risk teacher, we were only able to provide pull out for small group reading instruction in 4 grade levels because of the limited staffing and ELA schedule. The at risk teacher also is able to provide short time slots for some individual tutoring needs.

With the additional positions, we can nearly <u>double</u> the students with intervention available to them. 32/34 students showed growth in their iReady math score from fall to spring. The average growth was 32 points. 20/24 students increased their BAS levels for reading. 14/14 students increased their high frequency words read fluently. 12/17 increased the number of phonics skills mastered through their explicit instruction with an interventionist.

We were also able to hire a full-time social worker with ESSER funds. This position works with students with identified social emotional gaps or needs in small groups or one on one settings.

This year, our counselor teaches counseling lessons and works with 29 students with these types of gaps, but is unable to work with <u>all</u> the students who have been referred through GEIP or requested by student, teacher, or parent.

With the addition of this position, we have been able to provide this support for **37 additional students** in the 22-23 school year. This year, **she currently meets with 32 students** in group or individual settings.

This nearly <u>doubles</u> the number of students impacted by the additional position and support.

Students in these groups work on social skills, problem solving, anxiety management, regulation, coping skills, and friendship skills.

With this additional position and the ability to provide intervention to more students, we have seen a decrease in the number of Tier 3 students based on

	the behavior screener for our building. Prior to this staffing addition, we sat at 8% tier 3 and 19% tier 2. Since then, we have seen a steady drop. In the Spring of 2022-23 school year, we had 3% at tier 3 and 11% at tier 2. Our proactive approach with twice the number of students has had a positive impact on our students.
	Two years ago, we lost a special education teacher position. We are feeling the effects of this loss. Our 2 special education teachers have high caseloads with a mixture of resource, behavior, and self-contained students.
	Desired: Continue providing Meadowlark Ridge with the 3 following positions — Certified Interventionist Roving Teacher Full-time Social worker
B. How many classified support staff are currently employed?	2 Instructional Assistants (1 helps in the library and office). 1 administrative assistant 6 Special Education Techs for EBD. 12 Paraprofessionals (3 positions are not filled). 1 building operator and 2 custodians. 5 lunchroom/kitchen aides
C. How many classified support staff are needed?	3 Paraprofessional positions are not filled. Preschool needs extra hands in the morning class. 4 of the students require someone with them the majority

		of the time. Currently, there is 1 teacher, 1 full time
		para, and 1 part time para.
D. Are there enough appropriately licensed support	Yes	Current State: Yes, for the remainder of this year.
personnel such as counselors, librarians, nurses, etc.?		
		Desired State: Continue with a full time social worker
		for the majority of the school.
E. Are principals & other key staff trained to provide	Yes	Current State: Our Literacy Coach is trained and does
instructional leadership and professional development		a great job of providing data, instructional leadership,
to teachers?		and PD during PLCs and in-services. The principal and
		Lead Teacher are trained but don't always have the
		time to provide instructional leadership.
		Desired State: We do not have a full-time math
		coach. Our math coach is a 5th grade teacher. When
		we have a new math curriculum, will our staff get the
		same training since we don't have a full time math
		coach?
F. What staff development is necessary for teachers to		Current State: We are focusing on Belonging, Visible
support student success and meet the school		Learning, and Conscious Discipline.
improvement goals?		
		Desired State: Continue with Belonging, Visible
		Learning, and Conscious Discipline. We also need to
		train classified staff in Conscious Discipline. Our
		general education staff also needs more training with
		specially designed instruction and special education.

Section 6: Facility Needs	Response	Description
A. Is there adequate space for student learning?	Yes	Current State: All of our rooms and offices are being used. Some itinerant staff have to share spaces.

B. Are there necessary repairs and/or adjustments to the	Yes	Desired State: Controlled entry and exit for the EBD
existing space that need to be made?		area to enhance safety precautions.
C. Are additional School Buses needed or any additional	Yes	Desired State: More buses and monitors for students
Routes needed?		with special needs (to help with safety precautions
		and behaviors on the bus).

Section 7: Family Needs/Community Relations	Response	Description
A. Do you have regular events to engage parents with	Yes	Conferences, Meet the Teacher Night, Fun Night,
teachers?		Color Run, BINGO, Cookies with Santa, PTO, Site
		Council, Book Fair, Concerts, Marathon.
B. What types of caregiver training programs (teaching		Parent Teacher Conferences, resources given to
guardians how to give students help with homework,		parents as needed, ideas given to parents during GEIP
use technology that students will be required to use,		meetings, teacher newsletters, school weekly bulletin
etc.) are provided?		lists community resources.
C. Do you have an active Site Council?	Yes	We have six meetings per year.
D. Do you have active PTO, PTA, Booster Club, or other	Yes	PTO meets once a month.
organizations with parent leadership?		
E. What types of communication exists with families? Is it	Yes	Monthly newsletter, weekly bulletin, updated web
adequate?		page, emails, notes home, phone calls, texts through
		School Messenger.
F. What types of communication/social media exists with	Yes	Facebook, Website, Newsletter, Texts and emails sent
your community? Is it adequate?		through School Messenger.

Section 8: School Data	Response	Description
A. Building Attendance Rate		93.1%
B. Building Chronic Absenteeism Rate		18.4%
C. District Chronic Absenteeism Rate		32.8%
D. District Graduation Rate		86.6%

E. District Dropout Rate	2.4%
1. What is our building graduation rate	NA
2. What is our building dropout rate?	NA
3. What is our average comprehensive ACT score?	District 19.8

Section 9: Other Data	Response	Description
A. Based on the building leadership team's analysis, what		Behaviors and mental health needs have increased.
are the barriers your school faces with non-assessment		The leadership team has to address these needs
related issues?		appropriately, as well as assist parents with resources
		and assistance they might need to be successful.
1. Can these be achieved with additional resources?		Yes
2. Why or why not?		Having a full time social worker for the gen ed
		population would help greatly with the increase of
		behaviors and mental health needs we have in the
		building.
B. Additional building unique items:		MLR has the EBD program. Students with mental
		health and behavior needs from 12 districts come to
		us. This program requires a lot of staff, specialized
		training, and hours to operate on a daily basis.

Section 10: Building Barriers Statement	Response	Description
A. The barriers that must be overcome to have all students		Continue with a full time social worker (this is a top
achieve proficiency above level 2 for grade level		priority). In the past, we have had a halftime social
academic expectations on state assessment.		worker. ESSER funds allowed us to get a full time
		social worker. Without a full time social worker, we
		will not be able to adequately meet the social
		emotional needs of all students. Our social worker
		also answers crisis/behavior calls on a daily basis. She
		assists families with mental health services,
		community resources, and is a vital member of the

leadership team. She is able to help in times of crisis with students, including suicide protocol and threat assessment. Our social worker fills in as LEA if the lead teacher and principal are gone. Our social worker also helps in EBD as needed.

Continue with 1 interventionist (this is a top priority). In the past, we had 1 at-risk teacher for reading. We didn't have anyone addressing math concerns, gaps, and interventions. ESSER funds allowed us to work with students who struggled with math and reading gaps. This position was able to pull small groups, as well as one on one tutoring spots.

Continue with a roving sub (this is a top priority). The roving sub position is used to sub at least 3 times a week on average. When this person is not subbing, they are pulling small groups, tutoring, and helping with supervision coverage. Without this person to help sub, we would have to combine grade level classes, cancel specials, and/or have admin sub.