Community Council

February 28, 2020

Members Attending: Adell Arvidson, Vera Johnson, Trebea Martinez, Erin Mecham Mark Hyatt

Will email information to members about the BTS Arts Learning Program

Sent: March 2, 2020

**Beverley Taylor Sorenson Arts Learning Program**

**2020 Legislative Session**

**Request:**

Please support the Utah State Board of Education and Friends of BTSALP in their request for $7.4M in on-going funds to grow and maintain the program. This request if a priority of the State Board and is necessary for equity and access to all Utah Elementary children.

**Why:**

* Not every school in the state has been funded to participate. The appropriation for the current school year only covered the costs of schools that were already in the program and was insufficient to fund new schools.
* My child deserves to have the same opportunities as children in other parts of the state. This is an issue of equity.
* Research shows that the arts improve school climate, parental support, teacher morale, student achievement, and student behavior. I want that for my child in our neighborhood elementary school.
* The arts are part of a well-rounded education, and the arts educators that are funded through BTSALP have the skill and training to provide high-quality arts instruction.
* I have not talked to any parent who DOESN’T want their children to have the arts exposure that will come with BTSALP funding for our school.
* **Please support the 20/21 appropriation request for $7.4M, which includes $5.4M for growth and $2M for maintenance of the program.**

We are scheduled to receive a half-time BTS this next year. This will be a person who is certified and will work with teachers on integrating a form or art into their curriculum. We only have to pay a small portion of their salary. I am so excited we have this opportunity.

If you want to write a letter, that would be great.