



**Soap Lake School District No. 156**

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# Memorandum

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**To: Tisha Hansen, Andrew Kelly**

**From: Danny McDonald – Soap Lake Schools**

**Date: March 25, 2015**

**Subject: 2015-16 Sustainability Budget Proposal**

Tisha, here is the budget proposal for next year (2015-2016), As you can see it is a bit less than this year. As you read through our proposal, I hope you get a flavor for our efforts to continue those initiatives that have served us well and the ones we need to continue focusing on next year and beyond.

I would like to briefly give you a quick overview of our focus and action steps that we hope will give us the continuation boost to complete our Turnaround process and secure that our “closing the gap” efforts will not regress, but continue to grow, where as our student growth and performance efforts begin to mirror themselves. Using this year as “bridge grant”, the district is structuring its 2016-2017 fiscal budget to include those initiatives that we have listed on next year’s grant budget sheet.

Our sustainability efforts will include looking to increase our 4-year levy amounts to defray these costs because we believe that they have and will continue to be growth enhancing thus strengthening our exceptional core (Distributed-collaborative Leadership, Instructional priority-prowess, data guided lesson planning, lesson aligned to standards and focusing on specific targets).

Because we have another school in “Priority” Status, we want to continue our focused-efforts to improve our students’ proficiency in all of our core subject areas (not just Reading, Writing, and Math) so that a consistent efficiency is demonstrating that we are not only closing the achievement gap, but that we are aiming to climb above the state’s performance levels.

Your continued fiscal and specialist assistance is very much appreciated, but at the same time; we are very much aware of where we would be in a couple of years if we did not have the technical assistance and support at this juncture to help carry on these important initiatives.

The District is working to put into place the necessary system elements that will help sustain all of the good gains we have made in the areas of leadership development, instructional focus, culture building, and data mining.

Tisha, if you or Andy have any questions, please contact Caroline, Jake, or me. We will be glad to assist in answering them.

Respectfully,  
*Danny D. McDonald*  
Danny McDonald