



HOUSE of REPRESENTATIVES

STATE OF MICHIGAN

Appropriations Requests for Legislatively Directed Spending Items

1. The sponsoring representative's first name:
Tim
2. The sponsoring representative's last name:
Kelly
3. The cosponsoring representatives' names. All cosponsors must be listed. If none, please type 'n/a.' A signed letter from the sponsor approving the co-sponsorship and a signed letter from the member wishing to co-sponsor are required. Attach letters at question #9 below.
Rep. Beson
4. Name of the entity that the spending item is intended for:
The Future of Learning Council
5. Physical address of the entity that the spending item is intended for:
920 Municipal Way, Lansing, MI 48917
6. If there is not a specific recipient, the intended location of the project or activity:
FLC will support participating districts, IDSs and charter schools statewide
7. Name of the representative and the district number where the legislatively directed spending item is located:
statewide spending/impact with more than 70 districts, IDSs and charter schools participating from all regions of the state.
8. Purpose of the legislatively directed spending item. Please include how it provides a public benefit and why it is an appropriate use of taxpayer funding. Please also demonstrate that the item does not violate Article IV, S 30 of the Michigan Constitution. The Future of Learning Council will help guide the transformation of more than 70 districts, IDSs and charter schools statewide toward establishing student-centered competency-based models of teaching and learning.
9. Attach documents here if needed:
Attachments added to the end of this file.

10. The amount of state funding requested for the legislatively directed spending item.

4600000

11. Has the legislatively directed spending item previously received any of the following types of funding? Check all that apply.

["Private","Local"]

12. Please select one of the following groups that describes the entity requesting the legislatively directed spending item:

Non-profit organization

13. For a non-profit organization, has the organization been operating within Michigan for the preceding 36 months?

Yes

14. For a non-profit organization, has the entity had a physical office within Michigan for the preceding 12 months?

Yes

15. For a non-profit organization, does the organization have a board of directors?

Yes

16. For a non-profit organization, list all the active members on the organization's board of directors and any other officers. If this question is not applicable, please type 'n/a.'

* Dr. Chris Timmis, President, Superintendent of Dexter Schools * John VanWagoner, Vice President, Superintendent of Traverse City Area Public Schools * Dr. Kelly Coffin, Treasurer-Secretary, Superintendent of Farmington Public Schools * Dr. Rebecca Hutchinson, Director, Superintendent of Concord Community Schools * Dr. Sean Williams, Director, Superintendent of Eaton RESA * Dr. David Richards, Ex Officio, Executive Director

17. "I certify that neither the sponsoring representative nor the sponsoring representative's staff or immediate family has a direct or indirect pecuniary interest in the legislatively directed spending item."

Yes, this is correct

18. Anticipated start and end dates for the legislatively directed spending item:

2025-2028 (3 consecutive school years)

19. "I hereby certify that all information provided in this request is true and accurate."

Yes

[illegible]

Differentiated supports (outside experts)	Support for Personalized Implementation Plans, Portraits of a Graduate, and Portraits of an Educator Policy Work District Design Team Coaching Expert partners	\$75,000 N/A	\$225,000	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$75,000
Travel to Support Districts	Travel for national thought partner(s) to district events/coaching	\$14,000	\$233,800	\$70,000	\$116,900	\$46,900
Subtotal Partner Costs			\$2,933,800	\$920,000	\$1,316,900	\$696,900
Additional Costs						
Local district funds	Dollars for participating districts to support innovation- sub costs, teacher stipends, other relevant implementation costs, travel costs to events	\$30k for Ignite; \$45k for Activate; 2 years of funding	\$600,000	\$150,000	\$300,000	\$150,000
Event Costs	Dollars for Food (breakfast/lunch) & space- assume \$50pp * 300 ppl; 2 events-- Sept kick-off; May Celebration of Learning; 1 mid-year event 2 days for Learn; 5 days for Ignite/ Activate	\$50/pp/day 200 ppl for Learn 100 ppl for Ignite 45 ppl for Activate; +\$10k/event for hosting	\$100,000	\$25,000	\$37,500	\$37,500
FLC Costs	Director (80%); Coordinator (100%); Finance Back Office/ Support		\$600,000	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$200,000
Evaluation Costs			\$300,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000
Gradual Release Model	From Y2 onward, MI educators who begin to support the work		\$0			

Travel for Michigan based coaches	Travel between districts, conferences, and FLC meetings				\$0			
Marketing/ Storytelling	Web; Storytelling; National Collaboration- promoting the work in MI & beyond				\$75,000	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,000
Subtotal Additional Costs					\$1,675,000	\$500,000	\$662,500	\$512,500
TOTAL Annual Costs					\$0	\$1,420,000	\$1,979,400	\$1,209,400
					\$4,608,800			
					UPDATED	\$4,608,800		

A Smart \$4.6 Million Investment to

TRANSFORM EDUCATION IN MICHIGAN

14 ISD's
as members

Michigan's Education System IS AT A BREAKING POINT

Today's K-12 education system wasn't built for today's students, teachers, or economy. Outdated policies, rigid practices, and one-size-fits-all instruction leave students disengaged, teachers burnt out, and employers struggling to find a skilled workforce.

We're not just facing a challenge—we're facing a crisis.

But we also have an opportunity. Michigan can become a national leader in modern, student-centered learning—if we invest wisely and act now.



placeholder last
year

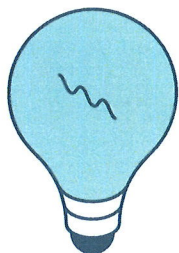
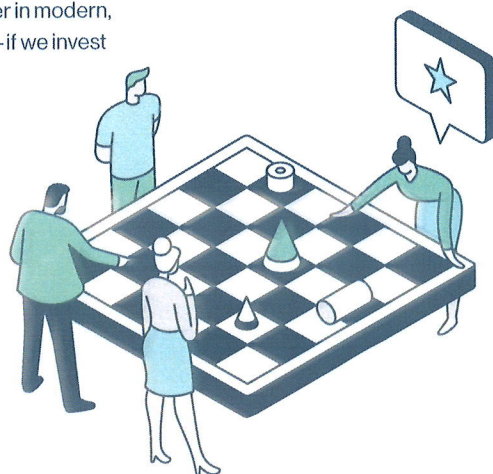
The Future of Learning Council (FLC): PROVEN ENGINE FOR CHANGE

Founded in 2021, the FLC is a grassroots network of nearly 70 Michigan school districts—public, charter, and ISDs—working together to implement **Personalized Competency-Based Learning (PCBL)**.

PCBL empowers students to learn at their own pace, focuses on mastery—not seat time—and helps educators personalize instruction to meet real student needs.

FLC districts meet monthly, share resources, tackle policy barriers, and test new practices in real classrooms. **This isn't theory—it's action.**

Recognized as a leading voice in education innovation, the FLC is a trusted source for school leaders working to design and implement transformative learning models.



WHAT'S THE ASK?

We are seeking a \$4.6 million investment over three years to scale what's already working—and accelerate transformation across Michigan.



**FUTURE OF
LEARNING COUNCIL**
EVERY CHILD. EVERY DAY.

FutureofLearningCouncil.org

920 Municipal Way | Lansing, Michigan 48917

THE PLAN

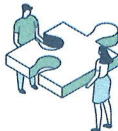
A Three-Part Statewide Strategy

Your investment will directly support:



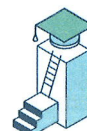
Tailored Cohorts + Professional Development

Multiple cohorts will be designed to guide districts through PCBL adoption based on readiness. Monthly workshops, virtual PD, and a curated Learning Library will give teachers practical tools they can use right away.



Transformation Loops

Districts will move through cycles of design, implementation, and reflection—building momentum, spreading best practices, and continuously improving.



Celebrations of Learning

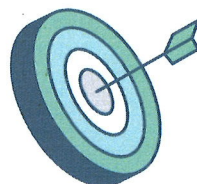
Local and statewide events will showcase success, build public awareness, and inspire even more districts to join the movement.

OUTCOMES:

Measurable. Sustainable. Scalable.

With this funding, we will deliver:

- **Higher student engagement and achievement** through personalized instruction and real-world learning.
- **Improved educator retention and satisfaction** by reigniting passion and reducing burnout.
- **A scalable, proven model** that can shape state policy and be replicated in other states.
- **Community empowerment** through deep engagement with families, businesses, and local leaders.



PROOF

It Works.

Nearly
70 Districts are
already collaborating.

Dozens of schools are **actively implementing PCBL.**

Educators are transforming their practice, and **students are responding with greater engagement and ownership.**

This work is being done today—on limited budgets and sheer passion.

NOW IT'S TIME TO SCALE IT.

MICHIGAN

**CAN'T AFFORD
TO WAIT**

This is more than a grant request. It's an invitation to lead.
A \$4.6 million investment in the Future of Learning Council will:

- **Support teachers.**
- **Empower students.**
- **Rebuild Michigan's education system from the inside out.**

Let's build an education system that works—for everyone.

Signed by Educational Leaders from Across Michigan

Dr. David Richards
Executive Director, Future of Learning Council

Dr. Chris Timmis
Superintendent, Dexter Community Schools

Dr. John VanWagoner
Superintendent, Traverse City Area Public Schools

Dr. Kelly Coffin
Superintendent, Farmington Public Schools

Dr. Sean Williams
Superintendent, Eaton RESA

Dr. Rebecca Hutchinson
Superintendent, Concord Community Schools

Transforming Michigan K-12 Education Through Competency-Based Learning

Making Michigan a Leader in Education and Developing the Next Generation

Reason for Action

K-12 education serves as the bedrock of Michigan's talent development pipeline and is crucial for the sustained competitiveness of Michigan employers. However, Michigan's K-12 education system is outdated and falling behind leading states. Dwindling academic performance, lackluster student engagement, a disparity between learning and practical application, and insufficient emphasis on transferable skills—essential for career success—have contributed to a talent deficit among Michigan employers. Additionally, the state's aging population, stagnant post-secondary attainment, and diminishing per capita income compared to other states highlight the pressing need for a forward-thinking approach to the journey from learning to earning for K-12 students, if we are to ensure a prosperous future for our state.

Educators Innovating

To address these challenges, a group of local superintendents self-organized and established [The Future of Learning Council](#) (FLC) in 2021 to transform the Michigan's K-12 model with the goals to increase student engagement, enhance real-world relevance of teaching, and cultivate the knowledge and skills in Michigan students necessary for future success. Today the FLC boasts over 70 local and intermediate school districts, charter schools, and learning partners. Together, they represent nearly 400,000 students from diverse communities across Michigan, serving as a catalyst to drive a collaborative state-wide effort to implement Personalized Competency-Based Learning (PCBL).

Competency-based learning stands out as a crucial recommendation within the [Launch Michigan](#) framework aimed at transforming K-12 education. Formed in 2018, Launch Michigan brought together leaders from various sectors—business, education, labor, and philanthropy—to address a vital question: how to effectively prepare our children for future success. To propel Michigan towards educational excellence, it is imperative to embrace rigorous college and career readiness standards and guarantee that every student has access to competency-based academic pathways that pave the way for success.

Proposal

The Future of Learning Council is poised to lead Michigan's education system into a new era through a \$4.6 million legislative funding request. Spanning three years, this investment will enable the implementation and scaling of PCBL across the state, guided by the following initiatives:

- **Cohort-Based Learning and Community of Practice:** FLC will establish three tailored cohorts—**Learn, Ignite, and Activate**—to support districts at varying readiness levels. Monthly workshops, virtual professional development opportunities, and access to a curated Learning Library will provide educators with essential tools and resources.
- **Transformation Loops:** Participating districts will engage in iterative cycles of design, implementation, and reflection. This process allows for continuous improvement, scaling of best practices, and alignment with community-driven goals.
- **Celebrations of Learning:** Local and statewide events will spotlight the successes and innovations emerging from Michigan's schools. These celebrations serve as both inspiration and a platform for sharing insights to accelerate transformation across districts.

FLC's collaborative work addresses the urgent need for our K-12 education system to make a systemic shift from a traditional time-based structure to one that is student-centered and designed around student mastery within flexible, competency-based learning models. This redesign enables connected, meaningful, and authentic pathways that develop core, transferable, and technical skills to build a stable and talented workforce.

Impact and Accountability

This initiative is grounded in clear, measurable outcomes:

- **Increased Student Engagement and Achievement:** By centering learning on student needs and strengths, PCBL fosters deeper engagement and prepares students for lifelong success.
- **Enhanced Educator Retention and Satisfaction:** Professional development opportunities will empower teachers, reigniting their passion for teaching and reducing burnout.
- **Scalable Transformation:** Lessons learned through cohort participation will inform statewide policy and practice, creating a replicable model for other states.
- **Community Empowerment:** Local stakeholders, including parents, businesses.

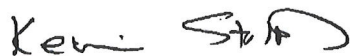
Business Support for FLC

Transformative change in K-12 education is rare, yet FLC member districts have been quietly leading the way through years of successful implementation of competency-based learning. With strategic investment, we now have the opportunity to expand this work across Michigan.

This proposal is more than an education initiative—it's a smart economic strategy. Competency-based learning builds a stronger talent pipeline, supports equitable opportunity, and prepares students with the skills needed to thrive in Michigan's evolving economy. Without this shift, the state risks falling behind, deepening socio-economic divides, and weakening community resilience.

We urge your support for this critical funding. It represents a unique opportunity to align education with workforce needs, strengthen our communities, and shape a brighter future for Michigan. By supporting the Future of Learning Council, we can create an education system that not only meets the demands of today but also builds a brighter future for generations to come.

Sincerely,



Kevin Stotts
President



96TH DISTRICT
STATE CAPITOL
P.O. BOX 30014
LANSING, MI 48909-7514

MICHIGAN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

TIMOTHY BESON

STATE REPRESENTATIVE

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FAX: (517) 373-8881
TimothyBeson@house.mi.gov
www.RepBeson.com

4/23/25

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to express my strong support for the Future of Learning Council's work in Personalized, Competency-Based Learning (PCBL) and to advocate for the proposed \$4.6 million investment to scale this proven model across Michigan.

Dozens of districts are already implementing PCBL with great success. This approach is fostering higher student engagement and achievement by prioritizing personalized instruction and real-world learning. Teachers are experiencing renewed passion for their work, which is improving educator retention and satisfaction.

The Future of Learning Council has developed a scalable, proven model based on three key strategies:

1. **Tailored Cohorts & Professional Development:** Monthly workshops, virtual PD, and a Learning Library provide teachers with practical tools they can use immediately.
2. **Transformation Loops:** Districts will engage in cycles of design, implementation, and reflection, driving continuous improvement and the sharing of best practices.
3. **Celebrations of Learning:** Statewide events that showcase success and inspire broader adoption of the model.

This is more than just a request for funding—it is an invitation to lead. With this investment, we can support Michigan's educators, empower students, and rebuild the state's education system from the ground up.

The work is already happening—on limited budgets and sheer passion. Now, it's time to scale it.

I wholeheartedly support this initiative and urge you to consider the profound impact it will have on the future of education in Michigan.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Timothy Beson", is located below the "Sincerely," text.

Rep. Timmy Beson
State Representative