



SCHOOL BOARD MEETING REPORT

Board Meeting Date: 9/19/2017 **Superintendent:** Dave Valenzuela

Administrator/Staff: Jessica Durrant

Type of Item: ☐ Informational ☒ Action

Please state your proposal briefly and clearly. What do you want the board to know, discuss, or decide?

This Board Report is requesting out of state travel for Director Jessica Durrant and Director Casey Alderson to travel to Milwaukee, Wisconsin to attend training from Sara Daniel, Director of Clinical Services and Staff Development at SaintA. Travel dates will be January 21-25, 2018 and all costs associated with attending this training (estimated to be \$8,215) will be paid for by grant dollars to support ACEs instruction. Upon completion of the training, Jessica and Casey will be Certified Trainers and will be able to provide ongoing professional development to Three Rivers staff and community using SaintA resources and materials. Focus of the training is to promote a common language of trauma sensitive schools that supports best practice for students and families.

Provide history/background information on your proposal:

Trauma Informed Care is a framework for understanding how experiencing trauma impacts all aspects of life, including learning. Becoming "trauma informed" means recognizing that people of all ages have different types of trauma, needing support and understanding. As educators, we must learn how to be compassionate and support students, parents, and staff to best help them be ready to learn and thrive. Students who have experienced childhood trauma may exhibit behavioral changes, difficulty focusing, and increased aggression/anger. In older students, they may feel self-conscious about their emotions as a result of the events. Students experience feelings of shame, guilt, and hyperfocus on revenge. There may be a shift in interpersonal relationships with family members, school staff, and peers. SaintA is an organization that is a creation of Dr. Bruce Perry and the ChildTrauma Academy, a biologically informed way to assess when trauma occurred in a child's development and create ways to mitigate its effects. SaintA is widely known for trauma informed care and offers trainings and consultations to educators, businesses, and the criminal justice system, in addition to human services professionals. Jessica and Casey will attend a four day workshop in which they will be trained by a senior trainer on SaintA's 7ei module of trauma sensitive schools. They will learn about the underlying research and resources that support 7ei. They will be equipped with tools and resources to create awareness and inspire a trauma informed perspective in TRSD.

List the advantages of your proposal:

Jessica and Casey will increase their understanding of childhood trauma, how it affects social and academic growth, and how they can be sensitive when working with students. We will increase their understanding of childhood trauma, be equipped with knowledge to train school staff, and analyze school systems to be sensitive to students and families who have experienced trauma. Jessica and Casey will be official trainers and can provide professional development to the TRSD staff and surrounding community.

List possible disadvantages of your proposal:

None known.

List possible alternatives that could also offer a solution to your proposal. Why were they not recommended?

We have been in regular communication with SaintA to find a training that is closer to Oregon, but currently they do not have any offered on the West Coast. Other trainings offered are repetitive in content and would not support the initiatives that TRSD is working on this school year.

Superintendent's recommendation(s):

Approve: Yes ☒ No ☐