
BOARD AGENDA ITEM

Information/Discussion _____
Future Action _____
Action _____

Item: Talent Together Consortium Agreement

Submitted by: James Hissong

Date: 11/6/2023 _____

Recommended by: Ron Gorman

Board Meeting Date: 11/13/2023 _____

BACKGROUND:

Kent ISD has been asked to join a consortium of member ISDs from across the state of Michigan known as “Talent Together” to provide an additional no-cost pathway for individuals who aspire to enter the teaching profession.

Talent Together provides an opportunity to supplement the work of the West Michigan Teacher Collaborative (WMTC), offering an additional pathway for individuals to enter the teaching profession via a teacher apprenticeship model. WMTC and Talent Together are similar in their missions to support the recruitment, development, and retention of future educators, and each of the three ISDs that comprise WMTC (Kent ISD, Muskegon Area ISD, and Ottawa Area ISD) have either joined or are in the process of joining the Talent Together consortium. While WMTC and our partnership with Grand Valley State University will continue to remain a priority for each ISD, this partnership will add another “tool in the toolbox” for our collective efforts to address the critical teacher shortage in West Michigan.

Talent Together is currently partnered with 50+ other ISDs and 9 colleges and universities located all across the state, including: Adrian College, Alma College, Aquinas College, Central Michigan University, Davenport College, Lake Superior State University, Northern Michigan University, University of Michigan – Flint, and Western Michigan University.