

Executive Summary
Prepared for Board of Trustees Meeting
June 23, 2009

American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009
Stimulus Funding

Board Goals:

- I. **Vision: *in pursuit of excellence, the district will:***
 - b. remain committed to providing equitable and outstanding opportunities for every student on every campus
 - d. develop a budget focused on student and professional learning
- II. **Teaching & Learning: *in pursuit of excellence, the district will:***
 - e. stay abreast of and incorporate best practices into teaching, learning and leadership
- III. **Parent and Community Involvement: *in the pursuit of excellence, the district will:***
 - a. Foster a positive and welcoming environment that encourages parent and community partnerships to achieve success for all our students

Purpose of Report

The purpose of this workshop is to provide information about funding support for students with disabilities which has been made available through the ARRA, also known as Stimulus Funding.

Objectives

- To enhance the awareness level of the board about ARRA funds and district responsibilities as to allocation of these funds
- To identify how the district plans to use funds to increase student improvement over a specified period

Operational Impact

Funding is available through application and available from April 15, 2009 through September 30, 2011.

All funds must be expended or encumbered through September 30, 2011. If personnel are hired using stimulus funding, the district will consider sustaining such positions at the end of the funding cycle and/or indicate how the benefits of the additional personnel will continue to yield positive outcomes for students. For example, to provide training in a way that others may assume responsibilities as systems are put in place and refined during the funding period.

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Results

A variety of activities and services has been identified through planning with stakeholders to enhance student improvement. Examples are:

Personnel: transition teachers, instructional coaches, student facilitators, bilingual licensed specialist in school psychology, inclusion teachers, clerks for elementary diagnosticians

Training: literacy specialist instruction, inclusion training, diversity training, special education specific professional development for all stakeholders, summer professional learning academy, curriculum alignment for life skills and adapted life skills content

Instructional enhancement: social skills training for students with autism, summer basic academic JumpStart for students with disabilities entering 9th grade

Materials: transition assessment software, hands-on functional assessment, Classworks software system, technology upgrades, assistive technology devices, listening devices and equipment

These services and activities are expected to improve student performance in the classroom, on end of year testing and state assessment, thus enhancing the movement through school leading toward graduation from high school and transitioning to appropriate post-secondary experiences.

Other Options

- Declination of the ARRA funding
- Request stakeholders to reconsider how the district proposes to allocate funding