



SCHOOL BOARD MEETING REPORT

Board Meeting Date: November 14, 2011

Agenda #

Staff/Administrator: Peter Maluk

Superintendent: Dan Huber-Kantola

Type of Item: ☐ Informational ☒ Action

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

Peg Cowens to attend the 14th annual national symposium for teacher induction in San Jose, California on February 5 (pre-conference collaborative) and "Shining the Light on Great Teaching" on February 6-7, 2012. This symposium is conducted through New Teacher Center and will address best practices, accelerating teachers' instructional methods, and correlating teacher quality to student achievement.

Provide history/background information on your proposal.

I attended last year's national symposium as a presenter and this year would like to learn from some of the experts at the national level. Novice teachers, who I serve in the mentoring program, need time and support in order to develop personal dispositions and habits of mind in content knowledge and teaching strategies. In this year's symposium, experts in the field will share how high-quality induction, including mentoring and embedded professional development, can accelerate the learning of beginning teachers and leaders to improve student achievement.

List the advantages of your proposal:

The advantages to the district are layered: 1) knowledge gained improves my skills in mentoring, resulting in quality work with new teachers, 2) I share my learning with other instructional coaches, as it pertains to quality instructional methods, and 3) the research-based information I bring back to leaders guides them in decisions necessary to maintain current practices in education. Travel, lodging, food, and registration are covered through the ODE co-presenter's fund in the mentoring grant and the district only covers professional leave costs for 2 days.

List possible disadvantages of your proposal:

I am not available for 2 days.

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

There are no other national symposiums outside of this one. The only alternative is to not attend.

Superintendent's recommendation(s):

Approve: Yes ☐ No ☐