

To: School Board Members

From: Sara Lein, Director of Special Services

Date: March 3, 2025

Re: Approval of Joint Powers Agreements between Dakota County and ISD 197 for Opioid Settlement Grant Funds

**BACKGROUND:**

School District 197 has received Opioid settlement funds from Dakota County, supporting efforts to discourage or prevent misuse of opioids through evidence-based or evidence-informed programs or strategies and connecting students to help as needed. The district will utilize these funds to support *Character Strong*, research-backed curricula and training that increases students' belonging, well-being, and engagement for grades K-4. Additionally, the district works to connect students to support by providing chemical health counseling by a Licensed Alcohol and Drug Counselor at the middle and high school levels for students with chemical use violations or upon request. The District is dedicated to a communication campaign aimed at educating the community about the risks of opioids and ways to prevent and address overdoses.

Under Minn. Stat. §471.59, subd.1, two or more governmental units, by agreement entered through action of their governing bodies, may enter into an agreement to cooperatively exercise any power common to the contracting Parties, and one of the participating governmental units may exercise one of its powers on behalf of the other governmental units.

Administration recommends approving the joint powers agreement. It is attached.

**RECOMMENDED RESOLUTION:**

***BE IT RESOLVED*** by the School Board of Independent School District No. 197 that the Joint Powers Agreement between Dakota County and ISD 197 to receive opioid settlement funds be approved.