



SCHOOL BOARD MEETING REPORT

Board Meeting Date: 16-Aug-13

Agenda #

Staff/Administrator: Dave Valenzuela

Superintendent: Patricia Adams

Type of Item: Informational Action

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

I am requesting permission for out-of-state travel to attend the Edupoint National Users Conference focusing on Synergy, the District's student information system. This conference is being held in Scottsdale, Arizona on November 14th and 15th with an optional hands-on pre-session taking place on November 13th. If our travel arrangements permit, I feel that the pre-session would be a valuable experience.

Provide history/background information on your proposal.

This will be our first year using Synergy as our student information system (SIS). We have been going through the conversion process for over a year with our SIS consortium. Last year we elected not to send anyone to the National Users Conference. We were the only district that did not send a team to the conference. Eugene, Springfield, Coos Bay and Eagle Point have all expressed how valuable the conference was to their individual conversion efforts and all districts are once again sending teams. Converting a SIS is a tremendous undertaking and I feel it is in our best interest to take advantage of this opportunity.

List the advantages of your proposal:

By sending a team to the National Users Conference, we will receive hands on training from the foremost experts on the latest and most pertinent features of Synergy. From state reporting to final grades/report cards; there will be a number of things still to front-load, set up and learn following our initial go-live with Synergy that we will be able to address at this conference. Last year we built our curriculum and technology department budgets with this conference in mind and have planned accordingly.

List possible disadvantages of your proposal:

Traveling out of state can be expensive and viewed as superfluous by some. There is no other conference of this type offered by Edupoint.

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

The only other option would be to not attend the conference, as we did last year. We are not recommending this due to the critical nature of this endeavor. Synergy has to work, and work well, for our staff and our students.

Superintendent's recommendation(s):

Approve: Yes No