



SCHOOL BOARD MEETING REPORT

Board Meeting Date: 22-Sep-09 Agenda #
Staff/Administrator: JoAnn Bethany 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?

I would like to ask for permission for Gary Enoch to accept a grant that has been offered through the NAA Foundation. The NAA Foundation has given Student/Newspaper Partnership Grants annually since 1997. The program provides funds to help establish or revive student newspapers. Grants are awarded to partnership proposals between middle and high schools and their local professional newspapers. Mr. Enoch will partner with the IV News and GP Daily Courier.

Provide history/background information on your proposal.

We have not had a school newspaper for at least the last eight years. Mr. Enoch took on the teaching of a journalism class last school year. He is committed to teaching students to be excellent journalist writers and has been working with a mentor from the Journalism Education Association all last school year. He has also taken two classes to help him learn how to produce online school newspapers. This grant will reimburse him for part of the tuition for those classes and will also help to provide continued work on this as well as to pay for a digital camera and software for the program.

List the advantages of your proposal:

We are excited to be able to give the journalism students a real and authentic audience by giving them an opportunity to produce an online school newspaper. Providing an online school newspaper will help with one of the district's goals - improving communication between school and parents as well as the community.

List possible disadvantages of your proposal:

None. Mr. Enoch is excited about this project and committed to it. His strong relationships with students, his desire for excellence, and his ability to motivate students will help to create a strong team and a great product.

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

It is possible to try to find some money from the discretionary budget for this, but since this grant is available and Mr. Enoch is committed to working with his mentor, this seems to be clearly a win-win situation. A copy of the grant guidelines is attached.

Superintendent's recommendation(s): **Approve:** Yes No