

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
LULING INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT**

AGENDA ITEM: Action Item	Date: December 17, 2018
SUBJECT: Updated Caldwell County Special Education Cooperative Shared Service Agreement	Submitted by: Susan Maxey Related Pages: 16 Pages
<p>BACKGROUND INFORMATION:</p> <p>The most recent contract for the Caldwell County Special Education Cooperative, henceforth referred to as the Special Ed Coop, was adopted by the Luling ISD Board of Trustees in 2011. The proposed 2018 agreement attached has previously been approved by the Lockhart ISD Board of Trustees. The Prairie Lea Board of Trustees is considering it this month. This agreement would make some changes and leaves some of the cooperative agreements as they are now. The 2018 agreement clarifies aspects of services and brings our Special Ed Coop in alignment with others like it around the state.</p> <p>Caldwell County Special Education Cooperative member districts include Luling ISD, Lockhart ISD, and Prairie Lea ISD. Lockhart ISD serves in the role of manager and fiscal agent of the Special Ed Coop. The Special Ed Coop's purpose is to create a cooperative arrangement whereby the Member Districts may provide for the efficient delivery of legally required special education and related services to eligible students with disabilities.</p> <p>In 2018-19, 80% of students served in the Special Ed Coop live within the boundaries of Lockhart ISD; 17% live within the boundaries of Luling ISD; and 3% live within Prairie Lea ISD. There are 34 transferred special education students who live within Luling ISD's boundaries but attend school to record special education services in Lockhart ISD. These students require services provided in the preschool program for children with disabilities, in the life skills program from kindergarten-grade 12, or in transition programs for 18- to 22-year-olds. In the proposed 2018 agreement, these students and others who qualify for these programs would continue to be served in Lockhart ISD.</p> <p>Also included in the proposed 2018 agreement are the services of evaluators such as diagnosticians and licensed school psychologists, and related services providers such as occupational therapists, physical therapists, teachers of visually impaired students, and teachers of student with auditory impairments.</p> <p>Differences between the proposed 2018 agreement and the 2011 contract:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Speech services and evaluation would be provided by the cooperative, eliminating Luling ISD's need to contract with an outside service provider.• Items such as cost of technology and indirect costs will be charged to member districts.• Member districts would pay a portion of costs for extended school year services, as required on a student-by-student basis by the students Individual Education Plan.• Students who are schooled in Lockhart ISD would no longer be required to transfer.	

They would remain in Luling ISD's system, and we would be compensated for their average daily attendance (ADA) in our district.

- Due to the students being in Luling ISD's attendance system, Luling ISD would see the accountability impact of the students' state testing scores. Most of the Luling special education students who live in Luling but attend school in Lockhart ISD take the STAAR Alternate 2, which the Texas Education Agency designed to assess students in grades 3–8 and high school who have significant cognitive disabilities and are receiving special education services.

In 2018-19, Luling ISD paid \$203,399 to support students educated in Lockhart ISD through the Special Ed Cooperative. If numbers remain stable, Luling ISD can expect to pay approximately \$304,604. While that is an increase of \$101,205, the overall expected budget impact would be minimal, since Luling ISD will retain ADA funding provided for all students and would not longer be required to contract for outside speech services.

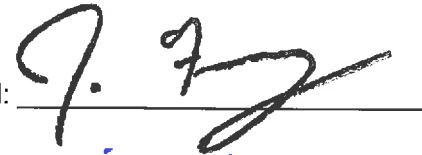
RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Motion to approve the Caldwell County Special Education Cooperative Shared Service Agreement as presented.

BUDGETARY INFO.

Anticipate \$304,604 in 2019-2020 school year

Board President's Approval:



Superintendent's Approval:

