



SCHOOL BOARD MEETING REPORT

Board Meeting Date: 9/17/2012

Agenda #

Staff/Administrator: Doug Ely

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 am asking the TRSD School Board for permission for our district to join with a group of school districts that will be applying for the Federal Race to The Top Grant. The group of districts is called the Western Oregon Proficiency Consortium. Submission of the grant applications will be in mid-October, and awards will be announced in December 2012. Funds are then released beginning July 1, 2013.

Provide history/background information on your proposal.

Due to the incredible amount of effort put forth by our district staff and teachers over the past four years, we are now recognized as one of the leading districts in Oregon in the area of Proficiency Based Instruction. As a result of that, Diane Smith, the Director of the BEC (Business Education Compact), recommended to Oakridge School Superintendent, Don Kordosky, that TRSD be included in the grant effort that he was initiating. After some conversations and meetings with Don, I feel that this would be worth the time and effort by our district to give this a try. The other school districts in the consortium are Oakridge SD, Lowell SD, and Siuslaw SD. The total RTT award would be around \$10,000,000 spread over a 5 year period. We would receive at least \$2,000,000 of that directly for staff development and for the purpose of hiring Proficiency Coaches (3 full time coaches).

List the advantages of your proposal:

This would provide a large amount of funding and resources for our continuing efforts in the area of Proficiency Based Instruction over the next 5 years. Additionally, it would help us to hire some of our coaches out with RTT funds, and thus free up some Title II funding for other staff development uses.

List possible disadvantages of your proposal:

As with any type of grant funding, there is a fair number of requirements set forth that we would need to comply with and report on. One area is student growth, but that is something that actually helps us monitor our students' growth through the use of formative assessment.

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

In order to make the time and efforts of a grant application and implementation worth the time, the grant needs to be large enough to cover the needs of the district.

Superintendent's recommendation(s):

Approve: Yes No