

MEETING DATE: February 17, 2014

AGENDA ITEM: Second Step Program Approval

PRESENTER: Scott Kessel

ALIGNS TO BOARD PRIORITY:

• Safety - The District will maintain a safe and orderly environment.

Background Information:

New and innovative strategies for discouraging bullying behavior are available and necessary. The Student Health Advisory Council has heard and evaluated a presentation from a group at McAnally Intermediate School wishing to pilot a program designed to teach behaviors that will result in reduced bullying. The Second Step program is researched-based and is endorsed by the American School Counselor Association.

Administrative Considerations:

- Curriculum focuses on teaching empathy and effective communications skills
- Scripted lessons for teachers and family engagement materials are included
- Delivery of the program would take place through:
 - o 15 lessons
 - o 6th grade social studies classes.

FISCAL NOTE: Purchase of the Second Step program would cost \$359

Administrative Recommendation: Administration recommends the approval of the Second Step Social Skills Program for use in 6th grade at McAnally Intermediate