

TO: School Board Members

FROM: Sara Lein, Director of Special Services

DATE: May 19, 2025

SUBJECT: School-Based Health Center Memorandum of Agreement

BACKGROUND:

At the February 18, 2025 School Board meeting, an outline and update on a possible School-Based Health Center at Two Rivers High School was presented to the school board.

In 2023, Minnesota State Statutes defined this work: “‘School-based health center’ or ‘comprehensive school-based health center’ means a safety net health care delivery model that is located in or near a school facility and that offers comprehensive medical care, including preventive and behavioral health services, provided by licensed and qualified health professionals in accordance with federal, state, and local law, to all students and youth within a school or district regardless of ability to pay, insurance coverage, or immigration status.” Minn. Stat. § 145.903

The School-Based Health Center Advisory Committee held its initial meeting on January 24, 2025, and met again on May 8, 2025. This advisory committee has established a mission: *Through a partnership with Riverland Community Health Center, Two Rivers School-based Health Center will provide comprehensive, high-value, student-centered, culturally sensitive, and trauma-responsive healthcare to the ISD 197 community with the intent to support education outcomes through improved healthcare access and engagement.*

The School-Based Health Center Memorandum of Agreement is entered into by and between Independent School District 197 and Riverland Community Health.

This Memorandum of Agreement was reviewed using the district’s 4-Way Equity Test. A School-Based Health Center (SBHC) at Two Rivers High School would be a powerful tool for advancing equity by providing accessible, inclusive health services directly on campus. It helps eliminate barriers for historically underserved students, such as those from low-income backgrounds, communities of color, or with disabilities, by offering medical, mental health, and preventive care in a culturally and linguistically appropriate way. By ensuring all students have access to care regardless of background, SBHCs support consistent attendance, academic performance, and well-being. They also foster community engagement by valuing family voices and creating safe spaces for students and families to share experiences, ultimately promoting a more equitable and supportive school environment.

RECOMMENDATION:

BE IT RESOLVED by the School Board of School District 197 to approve the School-Based Health Center Memorandum of Agreement between Independent School District 197 and Riverland Community Health, as presented.