



SCHOOL BOARD MEETING REPORT

Board Meeting Date: 15-May-24 Superintendent: Dave Valenzuela

Administrator/Staff: Jessica Durrant

Type of Item: ☐ Informational ☒ Action

Please state your proposal briefly and clearly. What do you want the board to know, discuss, or decide?

We are requesting authorization to utilize ESSER III funds for Capital Expenditures in two areas: The addition of a private office/meeting room for counseling and community resources, and the purchase of a van to transport students from the Jerome Prairie Transition Center, back and forth to job sites.

Provide history/background information on your proposal:

Project 1: Southern Oregon Success Academy (SOSA) serves students in grades 6-12 who need an alternative school setting for them to be successful. The students who attend SOSA have unique challenges; 86.4% of enrolled students live in poverty. SOSA staff work diligently to remove barriers for students to be successful and connect students and families to community resources whenever possible. SOSA West, the campus located in Cave Junction, has strong partnerships with Josephine County Juvenile Justice, Options Mental Health of Josephine County, and Maslow Project for Houseless Youth. These community resources provide support for the students and families, but there is one remaining barrier that can be solved using ESSER III funds. When these agencies come to SOSA-West to meet with students, there is no private space to talk with students. SOSA-West only has two modular buildings, both open spaces with no private office or meeting room. Three Rivers School District is requesting to use \$35,000 of ESSER III funds to add one meeting room space to allow students to meet privately with community agencies to support their mental, social, and emotional health. Our contractor has guaranteed construction of this small space will be completed by September 1, 2024, allowing for the project to be completed by the deadline to use ESSER III funds.

Project 2: As we recover from the pandemic TRSD has expanded this transition program that serves special education students 18-21. These youth spend the majority of their school day out in the community learning skills, teaming with community partners, job shadowing and providing much needed services. In order to access all areas of our large geographic county, we need a vehicle that can support transporting students back and forth from job sites.

List the advantages of your proposal:

Project 1: Short term effects will allow students to get "on-track" to graduate, and provide another avenue for students struggling in the regular classroom. Long term effects should allow more students to graduate and move forward with confidence, a sense of achievement and hopes of future success.

Project 2: Three Rivers School District is a large geographic area with 3 very diverse communities. Short term, adding this vehicle will allow us to support our students in the communities they live in, while also exposing them to additional opportunities. Long term, many of our students will remain in our county and our efforts to get them connected to community resources will significantly impact their ability to thrive as adults living the most independent lives possible. We are seeing more students get internships as well as paid jobs through this renewed focus.

List possible disadvantages of your proposal:

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

At this time, there are none.

Superintendent's recommendation(s):

Approve: Yes ☐ No ☐