

## GOVERNING BOARD AGENDA ITEM AMPHITHEATER UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 10

DATE OF MEETING: September 10, 2019

TITLE: Approval to Distribute Bonus Monies Received Pursuant to ARS 15-249.06(C)

## **BACKGROUND:**

Arizona Revised Statute 15-249.06 appropriates state funding for an incentive bonus to school districts and to charter schools for each high school student who receives a passing score during the previous fiscal year for college credit in the area of mathematics, English language arts or science. This bonus, identified as the "College Credit by Exam Incentive Bonus" ("CCEIB"), provides for the following incentive bonus payments to school districts and charter schools:

- A student who receives a passing score on a qualifying examination and who is enrolled in a school where 50% or more of the students are eligible for free or reduced price lunches shall generate for the school district or charter school a bonus of \$450 per passing score on a qualifying examination (subject to availability of funds).
- A student who receives a passing score on a qualifying examination and who is enrolled in a school where less than 50% of the students are eligible for free or reduced price lunches shall generate for the school district or charter school a bonus of \$300 per passing score on a qualifying examination (subject to availability of funds).

Qualifying exams include Advanced Placement (AP), Cambridge International Exam (Cambridge) A and AS Level and International Baccalaureate (IB) exams.

The District has received the CCEIB funds from the State of Arizona for students who received passing scores on qualified tests during FY 2017-2018. According to the Arizona Department of Education website, the state made proportional reductions to this year's CCEIB distribution amounts due to the large results statewide. Therefore, the distribution amounts for schools with 50% or greater free and reduced amounts were lowered from \$400 to \$315.90 per test. Similarly, distribution amounts for schools with less than 50% free and reduced lunch were lowered from \$300 to \$210.60 per test.

ARS 15-249.06(D) requires that the District "distribute at least fifty percent of the bonus monies to the associated classroom teacher for each student who passes a qualifying examination." The remainder of any bonus monies received by the District "shall be used for teacher professional development or student instructional support or materials." During the last legislative session, the CCEIB law was amended to expand the group of persons who may qualify to receive the CCEIB to include other teachers who instructed a student in the same department or subject area who may be approved by the school principal or school district governing board to receive the bonus. However, those changes do not apply to the current CCEIB distribution since this distribution is for tests taken during the 2017-2018. The changes to the CCEIB law become effective this year and will apply to future CCEIB distributions.

The purpose of this item is to advise the Governing Board about the receipt of the College Credit by Exam Incentive Bonus funds and to request authorization to distribute sixty percent (60%) of the funds received for



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each student who passed the qualifying examination during FY 2017-2018 to the associated classroom teacher. This percentage is consistent with the percentage of bonus funds distributed to qualified teachers earlier this year for "Results Based Funding" bonus monies approved by the State. The total amount, with matching costs, equates to a distribution to the associated teacher for each student receiving a passing score on a qualified exam in the amount of: (a) \$174.88 for students attending a school that receives Title 1 funds and (b) \$116.53 for students attending a school that does not qualify for Title 1 funds. The specific amount to be distributed to the associated teacher is presented on the list attached with this Agenda Item.

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is the recommendation of Administration that the Governing Board approve the distribution of sixty percent (60%) of any College Credit by Exam Incentive Bonus monies received by the District pursuant to ARS 15-249.06(C) to the associated classroom teacher for the student who passed the qualified exam as indicated on the attached distribution list.

**INITIATED BY:** 

Michelle H. Tong, J.D.

Associate to the Superintendent and General Counsel

Date: September 3, 2019

Todd A. Jaeger, J.D.