

Contract with Central Rivers AEA for Work Experience Instructional Services

Background:

Central Rivers Area Education Agency (AEA) offers **Work Experience Instructional Services** in conjunction with its special education program.

The work experience program is designed to allow high school special needs students to explore various career opportunities and occupations in the local community. Many students go directly into the work force with no realistic view of the skills necessary to find and to keep a job. Work experience can help provide and develop these skills. Work experience helps a student build sound work habits and attitudes and realistic expectations by participating in actual work experience through difference job placements. In addition, students work toward development of necessary social and personal skills needed to live and work as a productive member of the community. Services include:

- ★ working with students to assess interests and site preferences prior to placement.
- ★ placing students in appropriate work sites.
- ★ meeting with students to discuss issues related to site placement.
- ★ maintaining regular contact with students, school, and worksites.
- ★ collaborating with worksite representatives to solve any problems related to student placement.
- ★ assisting worksite representatives in the evaluation of student's work experience.

The cost of this program is charged to our **special education budget**.

We are asked to renew our agreement with the AEA annually for this Work Experience Instructional Services program. This is a routine annual task for the school board to renew this agreement and contract.

Recommended Action:

I recommend the board move to approve the contract with Central Rivers Area Education Agency for Work Experience Instructional Services.