



# SCHOOL BOARD MEETING REPORT

Board Meeting Date: 20-May-13

Agenda #                     

Staff/Administrator: Rachael Huish

Superintendent: Dan Huber-Kantola

Type of Item:  Informational  Action

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

Lorna Byrne Middle School is perusing a sustainability grant through GEAR UP. We are requesting \$15,000 for the 2012-2013, 2013-2014, and 2014-2015 years to help fund afterschool tutoring. The grant will help secure afterschool tutoring salaries for two teachers at 2.5 hours per day, two days a week for 34 weeks. In addition, money has been set aside for materials and supplies needed during tutoring.

**Provide history/background information on your proposal.**

Illinois Valley High School and Lorna Byrne Middle School have previously been awarded the GEAR UP grant to target academic excellence and "college-going culture" through increase rigor, finding the right classes for students, making college and higher education relevant, building relationships within schools and with outside agencies, as well as helping foster the reality that higher education is affordable. Due to our past involvement with the grant, Lorna Byrne Middle School is eligible for their sustainability project grant. This would help us build sustainability with our afterschool programs and tutoring as we experience a decreased level of funding from our 21st Century programs.

**List the advantages of your proposal:**

Next year will be LBMS's last year in the current 21st Century grant cycle. This means that we will only receive 50% of our initial funding level. This will drastically reduce the number of afterschool academic classes as well as tutoring options for students. With the additional funds available to the school, we can continue to provide additional academic time to struggling students.

**List possible disadvantages of your proposal:**

No costs will be incurred by the district.

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

Afterschool tutoring could be paid out of the general fund or the carry over balance for Lorna Byrne Middle School; however, this is not recommended as this would decrease the funding available to other staff members during the academic day or take away from other needed items purchased through carry over or general fund allocations.

Superintendent's recommendation(s):

Approve: Yes  No