



Sharon Williams, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

To: RIMSD 41 Board of Education
From: Dr. Sharon Williams
Cabinet Champion: Nicole Berry, Director of Early Childhood Programs
Date: May 27 2025
Re: **Head Start Conscious Discipline Social Emotional Training**

The RIMSD 41 Early Childhood Programs are committed to ensuring that all staff receive high-quality, ongoing professional development designed to build the knowledge, skills, and competencies necessary to promote positive outcomes for children and families. RIMSD 41 Early Childhood Programs prioritize the social-emotional development of preschool scholars through the use of Conscious Discipline as their core social-emotional learning curriculum.

Each June, Conscious Discipline hosts a Summer Institute, a week-long professional development experience designed to foster both personal growth and educational effectiveness. This immersive training offers educators a transformative opportunity to build practical skills and gain new insights in a dynamic and supportive setting.

Specifically, the program's participation in the Conscious Discipline Summer Institute aligns with the following federal requirements and priorities:

- *A program must provide staff with ongoing training and professional development to support the delivery of high-quality services and continuous program improvement.*
- *Professional development must be intensive, reflective, and aligned with program goals and school readiness outcomes.*
- *Programs must ensure that teachers and assistant teachers strengthen their skills to effectively promote children's social-emotional, cognitive, and language development.*

Below is an estimate for 20 staff members (including teachers and assistant teachers) to attend the Summer Institute. We researched the comparable cost of having the training facilitated onsite at HMELC, the onsite option would be upwards of \$150,000, far exceeding the cost of 20 staff members participating in the conference.

Please note: Final costs will vary based on venue availability at the time of registration. As of this request, the following locations are available: Houston, Texas; Minneapolis, Minnesota; Las Vegas, Nevada; and Madison, Wisconsin.

It is recommended that the Board of Education approve Head Start Staff to attend the Conscious Discipline Summer Institute in June, 2025 at a cost not to exceed \$78,500.

Investment Period: June 2025
Total Investment: \$78,500
Funding Source: Head Start

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