



SCHOOL BOARD MEETING REPORT

Board Meeting Date: May, 2012

Agenda #

Staff/Administrator: Jim Kriz

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?

Fort Vannoy Elementary teacher Jim Kriz is asking for permission from the Board to attend the Cooperative Learning Summer Academy in Orlando, Florida, July 16-20, 2012. Fees for the Academy, airfare and housing costs will be provided through Fort Vannoy's Title I and School Improvement Grant funds (\$2513 is provided for Staff Development and \$2100 is budgeted for travel.)

Provide history/background information on your proposal.

Increasing students engagement has been a focus for the District. Jim attended a District-sponsored Cooperative Learning workshop last year. After getting his feet wet, he would like to "dive in!" Fort Vannoy's School Improvement Plan states that, "Teachers will continue to study and develop student engagement structures to enhance math instruction." The school's School Improvement Grant proposal states that teachers are to be trained to become "trainers of staff". Attending the Summer Academy would not only allow Jim to reach a personal, professional goal, but he would be helping to fulfill Fort Vannoy's Plan for School Improvement.

List the advantages of your proposal:

Jim's students will have greater opportunities for engagement in their lessons, which will lead to increased academic achievement. In addition, Jim will use what he gains from the Academy experience to conduct Staff Development workshops and to offer to mentor/coach colleagues in cooperative learning strategies. This will be a win/win for students and educators alike.

List possible disadvantages of your proposal:

None. As this is a Summer Academy, so student contact time will be lost.

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

This 5-day Academy is only offered in Orlando this summer.

Superintendent's recommendation(s):

Approve: Yes No