

**LIVONIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
June 2, 2014**

ITEM: V.B.

TOPIC: Approval of Japanese Immersion Magnet Program

RECOMMENDATION:

Because the actions of the Hinoki International School Board have led the Livonia Public Schools' Board of Education and administration to have serious concerns that the Hinoki International School Board can effectively provide their current program to its students and because the Hinoki Board has provided no evidence of its ability to do so when confronted with these facts by the District, the School District and its administration feel that it is necessary to provide a program to protect the current and future students who wish to take advantage of such program, unless such evidence can be provided forthwith.

Therefore, based on current circumstances, move that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District approve the creation of a K-6 Japanese Immersion Magnet Program beginning in the 2014-2015 school year and allow Section 105(c) Schools of Choice for up to twenty-five (25) seats in grades one through four and up to fifty (50) seats for kindergarten.

Any students applying to participate must meet all of the criteria for participation. Further, the Board of Education approves the attached *Letter of Understanding* between the District and the Livonia Education Association (LEA) regarding the Japanese Immersion Magnet Program.

RATIONALE:

The program will provide another option for parents interested in this type of unique program, offer a prestigious and innovative program to go with the many other programs in the district, and eventually create opportunities to grow and support our current global programs.

BUDGETARY INFORMATION:

There is no anticipated added net cost to the District to operate this new program.

RESOURCE PERSONNEL:

Randy A. Liepa, Ph.D.

EXHIBITS:

Attached Letter of Understanding