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## **IMESD District Board Talking Points April 2016**

We are now in the middle of the busy spring season! So many activities for kids this time of year.

This Talking Points document will focus on two innovative initiatives created within the recently approved IMESD Local Service Plan.

**Student Technology Expo Program (STEP)** STEP is a technology program for select high school students. Assisted recently by an ODE grant, IMESD is creating a student desktop support system for our schools. This exciting project is a win/win on several levels:

- Highly-skilled high school students will be trained by IMESD staff to complete an IT certification program.
- School districts will benefit from increased desktop support capacity and responsiveness in troubleshooting hardware and software issues.
- Students will earn high school credit, and possible college credit, while building their resume.
- IMESD offers part-time employment for select students during busy times of the year, such as summer orders.

STEP will kick-off with a large regional event on Wednesday, April 27, at the Pendleton Convention Center. Over 110 students are expected to attend a daylong training. Feel free to drop by!

**School Security** IMESD is collaborating with Pendleton Police Chief Stuart Roberts to develop a regional school security program. Over the past several months, Chief Roberts has visited the majority of districts and conducted building walkthroughs with administrators. The walkthroughs are designed to identify areas of strengths and weaknesses at each site to assist in future planning. In the fall, IMESD will host a workshop from the “I Love You Guys” foundation to train staff and develop consistent regional practices.