



PUTNAM COUNTY COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #535

Recommendation for the Board of Education

Meeting: July 16th, 2024

Item: ALOP Program

Recommendation: I recommend the Board of Education approve the participation of PCJH in the ALOP Program sponsored by the Regional Office of Education #35 (ROE). ALOP services are part of a larger initiative facilitated by the State and local ROEs to address students at risk of academic failure. This particular service includes the ROE providing a full-time individual to serve as a mentor for a caseload of students needing more resource and support generally not provided by the general program of the school.

Similar programs were started in the suburbs several years ago and have demonstrated success in boosting student attendance and promoting academic achievement. More recently, the ROE piloted this program in regional school districts and those districts have vouched for the success of it as well.

We determined the best fit for the program would be PCJH for the following reasons:

- Efforts are already being made to establish individualized relationships with students to promote the focus of the program (i.e., attendance and academic achievement).
- PCHS already has an established mentoring program.
- PCJH provides an opportunity for early intervention of students' academics, behavior, and attendance.

The individual provided to PCJH will be an employee of the ROE, but they will follow all expectations of PCJH staff. As a public entity, the individual will also be held to the same standards of professionalism and respect when working with students.

The ROE is able to host this program using federal funding. However, the District would need to pay an annual cost of approximately \$14.00.