



SCHOOL BOARD MEETING REPORT

Board Meeting Date: 9/15/2015 Agenda #

Staff/Administrator: Dave Valenzuela Superintendent: Dave Holmes

Type of Item: Informational Action

Please state your proposal briefly and clearly. What do you want the board to know, discuss, or decide?

Dave Valenzuela requesting permission for out-of-state travel for up to six TRSD Employees to attend the Edupoint National Users Conference focusing on Synergy, the District's student information system. The participants would include Pete DelVaglio - Network Programmer, Malachi Hall - Systems Analyst, Michelle Pitts - Curriculum Office Manager and Kellie Lovell - TOSA (Instructional Coach and Grade Book) Lisa Beteta - Special Education Coordinator and Billie Patton - Special Education OM. This conference is being held in Anaheim, California on November 5th and 6th. This conference has proven to be extremely valuable and informative to our support staff. Given it's value, it was anticipated and budgeted for ahead of time.

Provide history/background information on your proposal.

Synergy has been our student information system (SIS) for two years now. During that time the system has undergone significant and regular change. Synergy supports and incredible amount of data and information for our district and it is critical that it functions according to district needs. Synergy is going through a significant upgrade from version 9.0 to 10. This will impact many features and the general user experience. Three Rivers is also moving to Synergy SE, the Special Education Records module of Synergy. This conference is designed to give our key personnel the support they need to address the new features as well fix any issues we are currently dealing with.

List the advantages of your proposal:

By sending a team to the National Users Conference, we will receive hands on training from the foremost experts on the latest and most pertinent features of Synergy. From state reporting and Sped records management to final grades/report cards; there will be a number of new features and functions to learn. Last year we built our curriculum and technology department budgets with this conference in mind and have planned accordingly.

List possible disadvantages of your proposal:

Traveling out of state can be expensive and viewed as superfluous by some. This year's National User's Conference is in Anaheim, CA and being held at the Disneyland Hotel (not in the resort itself, just at the Hotel). We do not get to choose where a conference is held, we can only gauge the value to our users and determine the viability of this conference to our district. There is no other conference of this type offered by Edupoint.

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

The only alternative is to not attend the conference. This was not recommended because Synergy not only has to work for our employees, it has to work extremely well. We can better ensure this level of support and functionality if we have all the tools necessary to support it.

Superintendent's recommendation(s):

Approve: Yes No