Executive Summary
Prepared for Board of Trustees Meeting
March 21, 2017

Strengths Academies and BLAST: Building Leadership and Academic Strengths Together

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Board Goal:

- Remain committed to providing equitable and outstanding opportunities for every student on every campus
- Prepare our students to be successful in a global society while instilling an appreciation for community service
- Develop academic skills and interpersonal relationships necessary for student success in college, the workplace and for life.

Purpose of Report

- To share the excitement and benefit of Strengths curriculum at our 17 Strength-Based campuses.
- To share updated information about the BLAST program at Ryan High School.
- To share information about our partnership with Learning L2 Together and our efforts to transform struggling students into successful students through strengths education and rigorous academic content.

Objectives

- To provide rigorous academic, social, and emotional advancement by focusing on how students are strong, not how they are wrong.
- To provide weekly curriculum to elementary, middle school, and high school students that focuses on developing a strengths portfolio that will provide sustainability life lessons.
- To provide a curriculum that combines a proven one on one peer tutoring methodology with The Gallup Organization's research-driven strategies for building student hope, engagement, and resiliency.

Operational Impact

- The majority of the financial impact is from campus funding.

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Results

- Research supports that when we focus on our strengths, we are more enthusiastic about our work and our lives. This benefits every stake holder in our district (students, staff, and parents).
- BLAST drives stretch learning in Language Arts to significantly raise comprehension and critical thinking. The curriculum is aligned with Texas state standards, TEKS and STAAR.

Other Options

N/A