

School Board Meeting:

January 10, 2011

Subject:

Quest Program Expansion

Presenter:

Pam Miller

SUGGESTED SCHOOL BOARD ACTION:

Recommend board approval.

DESCRIPTION:

At the December 13, 2010 board meeting, the Quest program status was reviewed, and recommendations for program expansion were presented for your consideration. Given the positive implementation of Quest this year, the planning team recommends board approval for the program expansion for 2011-12.

The following recommendations are presented for board approval:

1. Expand the Quest program to Grade 7 for 2011-12.
2. Expand the Quest program to Grades 2-3 for 2011-12 if sufficient numbers of qualifying students can be identified and parents opt to commit to the program.
3. Provide financial commitment from the district of the following:
 - a. Up to 1.0 FTE for elementary Quest programming. This represents the same staffing commitment for elementary Quest programming from 2010-11 (no increase for 2011-12). Additional staffing needed will be absorbed by the elementary staffing allocation.
 - b. Up to 1.0 FTE for BCMS Quest programming. This represents an increase in the staffing commitment for BCMS Quest programming from 2010-11. No district staffing allocation was provided to BCMS for the first year of Quest. The Quest program requires approximately 1.6-2.0 FTE additional staffing. The recommendation is to provide 1.0 FTE from the district level; the remaining staffing needed will be absorbed by the BCMS staffing allocation.
 - c. Up to \$5,000 start-up costs for program expansion. This is a one-time expenditure for 2011-12 only. Start-up costs will be used for curriculum materials and professional development opportunities.
4. Commitment to the program for three additional years (through 2013-14) to allow the program to develop and become sustainable.

Once approved, Laura Halldin will begin communication with families along with the development of the identification process for the additional Grades 2-3 classroom. The district staffing process for 2011-12 begins this month as well. Board approval of Quest staffing will allow district administration to plan accordingly within the allotted FTEs.