

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

2 – RTMS Programming; Dr. Silverman, Asst. Supt. for Curriculum and Instruction and Mr. Rogers, RTMS Principal

River Trails Middle School is in the process of implementing new programming for the 2012-2013 school year. A brief presentation at the Board Meeting will include the following overview:

Expanding Project Gateway

Our Project Gateway STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) program will continue to grow next year. Currently we offer a nine week Design and Modeling course to most 6th-8th grade students. We will expand Project Gateway in 2012-2013 by introducing Energy and the Environment for 7th graders and Automation and Robotics for 8th graders.

6th Grade World Language

River Trails Middle School is adding world languages to the 6th grade encore rotation for the majority of 6th grade students in 2012-2013. These students will engage in nine weeks of French and Spanish as part of their encore course rotation. The introductory course will provide more background and support for students as they head into the full year program. Students will be better prepared to meet the demands and rigor of the 7th and 8th grade world languages program.

Executive Functioning

All 6th grade River Trails Middle School students will participate in an executive functioning course in 2012-2013. The executive functioning curriculum was designed by Rush University Medical Center. Executive Functions are cognitive processes that allow people to plan, organize, make decisions, pay attention, and regulate behavior. We believe this program will help our students develop much needed skills in these areas and increase their problem solving abilities. The course will be facilitated by the 6th grade teachers during 10th period next year.