



BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES

## KELLER INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

**8E. Action**

**Date: September 8, 2008**

**SUBJECT: APPROVAL TO AUTHORIZE SUPERINTENDENT TO EXECUTE COMMUNITIES IN SCHOOLS CONTRACT**

**BOARD GOAL: All students will achieve educational excellence.**

**FISCAL NOTE: Budgeted funds**

### **Background Information:**

- Communities in Schools of Greater Tarrant County has been in Keller ISD for the last 3 years
- Social workers presently in place at North Riverside Elementary, Parkview Elementary, Chisholm Trail Intermediate, and Fossil Hill Middle schools as part of the district's Differentiated Staffing plan
- 63% of students served in 07-08 were minorities; 54% were free/reduced lunch; 32% lived with both parents; 88% needed some sort of social service support outside of school; 43% disclosed a family conflict
- Year-end data and surveys show that 100% of students served in 07-08 stayed in school; 80% showed improvement in academic performance; 90% showed improvement in behavioral/discipline performance

### **Administrative Considerations:**

- Communities in Schools carries a finite caseload per campus (usually about 90 students/families) to ensure the quality of the services.
- Students & families are referred for services based on teacher/campus identification.
- Careful collaboration takes place between the CIS social worker and the campus counselor to minimize any overlap or duplication of services.
- Much of the focus with CIS is on connecting students & families with needed community resources – medical, dental, and vision care; holiday assistance; mentoring; summer programs; community service activities; pre-employment for students and parents.
- In order to provide a continuum of service, future plans include adding an additional CIS social worker at Fossil Ridge High School so that services are maintained through the entire feeder pattern.
- Funds are included in the adopted 2008-09 budget.

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**The administration recommends that the Board of Trustees authorize the superintendent to execute the Community in Schools Agreement to effectuate the social worker program for this year and in subsequent years.**

Respectfully submitted,

Scott Kessel,  
Director of Guidance & Counseling