

Work Session

Monday, February 7, 2022 6:30 PM

Middle School Student Center, 601 Minnesota Ave, Big Lake, MN 55309

I. Call to Order	Presenter: Chair, Tonya Reasoner
II. Roll Call	Presenter: Chair, Tonya Reasoner
III. Board Credit Concept	Presenter: Superintendent, Tim Truebenbach
IV. Transportation Discussion	Presenter: Superintendent, Tim Truebenbach
V. MSBA Strategic Planning Discussion	Presenter: Superintendent, Tim Truebenbach
VI. Adjournment	Presenter: Chair, Tonya Reasoner

An Introductory Proposal: School Board Credit

Winter 2022

What is School Board Credit?



School Board Credit:

- BLS equivalent to graduate credits (regarding time, degree of expectation, demonstration and application of learning)
- BLS awards credits toward lane changes based on BLS courses and criteria
- BLS determines priorities and approves course options aligned with select district initiatives
- BLS determines course expectations, providing job-embedded tasks to support effectiveness of BLS teachers

- Promote teacher retention:
 - Teachers receive increased support for district initiatives
 - Teachers earn “graduate” credits as long as they are employed with BLS
 - BLS can add this to its efforts to attract and retain teachers.
- Aligns with high-quality professional learning practices:
 - Job-embedded professional learning
 - Coaching
 - Coherence (aligned with district initiatives)

- Board credit may be cost neutral as teachers earn credits for lane changes anyway.
- BLS budgets for additional lane changes annually.
- Board credits can extend life of district PD funding.
- BLS can save funds by increasing teacher retention and reducing costs for hiring, mentoring.

Immediate Application: LETRS



LETRS® (Language Essentials for Teachers of Reading and Spelling) is comprehensive professional learning designed to provide elementary educators and administrators with deep knowledge to be literacy and language experts in the **science of reading**.

Mississippi teachers are required to participate. As a state, they have seen significant growth in their students reading and writing skills and the reading test scores.

School Board Credit

LETRS in Minnesota



- Currently, MDE provides the cost of training (not credits) for K-5 teachers, reading specialists and interventionists, and administrators.
- However, teachers complete 144 hours of training, the equivalent of 12 graduate credits, outside of their school day.
- If BLS were to fund LETRS training (cost of training and training rate) for all 30 Liberty classroom teachers, we would expend approximately \$180,000K.

Other Considerations



- Many MN districts are enrolling teachers in LETRS training.
- Some districts required teachers to pay a fee to “buy” credits.
- For teachers currently on the far, button right of the salary schedule, BLS credits/courses could count toward a teacher’s PGP.
 - This could lower the number of credits we would need to provide.
 - And, we would be acknowledging teachers who have provided many years of service to BLS.