



To: Dr. Mike Riggle
Board of Education

From: Dr. Lauren Fagel
Dr. John Finan

Date: October 22, 2018

Re: Request of Approval for Professional Leave Expenses - Special Education LRP: Legal Conference

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board of Education approve the request for estimated professional leave expenses in the amount of \$10,560 from Federal Grant dollars and \$2640 from district funds as presented.

Background

In keeping with Board Policy 2060, the Board of Education has established a maximum allowable amount for prepaid expenses and reimbursement for travel, meal and lodging expenses to an amount not to exceed \$5,000 aggregate per professional leave trip. In the event that a trip's expenses exceed the per trip aggregate cost, the Board of Education is required to approve the expenses by a roll call vote at an open meeting.

The Business Services department has implemented a process where they are notified if there is a desired trip that exceeds the \$5,000 aggregate threshold. In response to the request, a formal memo is drafted and information is presented to the Board of Education for consideration prior to any expenses being incurred by the District.

Attached is a professional leave opportunity summary that is being submitted for consideration.

Request of Approval for Professional Leave Expenses

Name of Event	Dates and Location of Event
LRP's 40th Annual National Institute on Legal Issues of Educating Students with Disabilities	5/5/19 - 5/8/19 Orlando, Florida

Overview and Description of Event
<p>LRP's National Institute is a 3-day conference that provides the most up-to-date information on special education legal practices and case law from nationally recognized attorneys. There are hundreds of sessions and events that provide skills and strategies to implement legal mandates and best practices. Exhibitors will be available for special education administrators to focus on learning about the latest and most effective products, services, training, and best practices to improve their skills.</p> <p>LRP's National Institute has been a trusted source for special education administrators, providing the highest-quality professional development in the field so that educators have the tools and resources needed to stay abreast of state and federal mandates and ensure continued compliance with all of the legal requirements in special education.</p>

Rationale for Attending Event
<p>The administrative team benefits from periodic professional development related to special education law. However, with the changes in ESSA and recent developments in special education policies and procedures, it is very timely for staff to attend to learn new information, receive refreshers on mandates, and evaluate implications for school districts.</p> <p>LRP's resources dissect the what, why and how of education laws. Real-world implementation ideas supported by compliance guidance explain districts' obligations under the IDEA, ADA, Section 504, ESSA/Title I, and FERPA, plus the best ways to satisfy them.</p>

Outcomes
<p>The team will expand their expertise through attendance at sessions. Staff will have an opportunity to collaborate with professionals from around the nation to learn what is working in their schools and see innovative products and services offered by top education companies. Participants will learn strategies and techniques that will provide a new approach for specific cases. They will utilize newly learned information to provide training and professional development to special education staff in their departments.</p>

Possible Alternatives Considered
<p>There is no direct substitute for this conference. It is the largest annual gathering for special education administrators and the only law conference of its kind. There are legal sessions held in our area; however, those sessions do not provide the breadth and depth of information in the field. It also does not host well-recognized national presenters who bring a larger scope of knowledge beyond what is happening in our area.</p>

	Per Person Cost	Total Cost
<i>Substitute(s) Required?</i>	None	
<i>Registration:</i>	1290	6450
<i>Lodging:</i>	1000	5000
<i>Meals:</i>	N/A	
<i>Vehicle Expense:</i>	N/A	
<i>Airfare Expense:</i>	350	1750
<i>Other:</i>		
Total Cost	2640	13200*

***The nature of this conference allows us to use Federal Grant dollars for staff attendance and accompanying costs for all but one person.**

Please indicate N/A in an expense category if it is not applicable to this trip.

Employees and Building Attending	Employees and Building Attending (Continued)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Jennifer Pearson (District) ● Stacey Wolfe (GBS) ● Doug Strong (GBOC) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Kathy French (GBN) ● Julie Feeney (GBS)

Supervisor Approval	Principal/Asst. Sup. Approval
Lara Cummings Eric Etherton	Lauren Fagel John Finan Jennifer Pearson