ITEM #: 5

DATE: May 12, 2020

RESCUE UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

AGENDA ITEM: COVID-19 Update

BACKGROUND:

Our schools continue to be closed due to the COVID-19 restrictions. We are currently engaged in a Distance Learning model of instruction for our students and are very proud of our teachers and staff for the engagement and support they are providing for students and families.

This item will be an ongoing item on the agenda so as to provide the RUSD Board of Trustees with an update regarding our status and plans for the future.

STATUS:

This is an informational item for discussion.

- Food Service: Instead of providing breakfast and lunch meals on a daily basis for families, we have moved to providing breakfast and lunch meals for an entire week, passed out each Monday. Our Food Service crew packs these meals on Thursday and Friday for the dispersal on Mondays. Volunteers help distribute the meals on Mondays and volunteers help pack the additional Food Bank items on Thursdays as well. The first week we served well over 6,000 meals. This week we served over 5,000 meals.
- **ESY**: We will provide the Extended School Year program during the month of June for our Special Education students via distance learning, as is the county.
- **EL Summer Program**: We will not be providing our EL summer program this year due to continued social distancing restrictions.
- Outreach to parents regarding their plans for next year: Our principals and student services secretaries have reached out to every single family to find out if they will be returning next school year or not. The results are very positive at this point. Due to the extreme budget shortfall in the State, however, we will be waiting to place temporary teachers and continue with our hard hiring freeze to be sure students are enrolled for the 20-21 school year.
- Discussion with county superintendents regarding scenarios for next year: See attached notes
- Report Cards for 3rd Trimester: We met with RUFT and agreed to only put comments related to participation on the report card. Additionally, RUFT felt strongly that there should be a common message in the handwritten comment section. That common message and the agreed upon drop down comments are listed below. If teachers want to make specific comments to the parents, RUFT would prefer that they do this individually through other means.
- Student demonstrated consistent participation in distance learning.
- Student demonstrated some participation in distance learning.
- Student did not participate in distance learning.
- Common message: Due to COVID-19 related school closures, all academic programs for the majority of the third trimester were provided via a distance learning model. No permanent academic marks will be recorded for the third trimester.

FISCAL IMPACT:

N/A for the discussion

BOARD GOALS:

Board Focus Goal I - STUDENT NEEDS

- A. Student Safety and Well Being: Enhance and encourage social, emotional, ethical and civic learning by providing a safe, supportive and diverse environment.
- B. Curriculum and Instruction: Provide a meaningful, innovative learning environment using Common Core, and other student content standards and research-based, progressive, effective instructional methodology, instructional materials, staff development and technology that will ensure student success in career and college.

Board Focus Goal II - FISCAL ACCOUNTABILITY

Keep the district fiscally solvent through prudent LCAP aligned budget processes in order to meet the needs of our students.

Board Focus Goal II - COMMUNICATION / COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Establish and maintain consistent and effective communication that is transparent and timely in an effort to provide and receive information that will engage and educate our District and community.

Board Focus Goal IV - STAFF NEEDS

Attract and retain diverse, knowledgeable, dedicated employees who are skilled and supported in their commitment to provide quality education for our students.

Board Focus Goal V - FACILITY / HOUSING

Build, improve and maintain school facilities to meet current and future education needs while integrating the most effective and efficient use of resources.

Board Focus Goal VI – CULTURE OF EXCELLENCE

Create and promote programs that support, reward and incentivize employees to perform at exceptional levels for the benefit of our students.

RECOMMENDATION:

Information and discussion only.