

College Station Independent School District



Success...each life...each day...each hour

MEMORANDUM

To: Mike Martindale, Superintendent *MM*
From: Dr. Penny Tramel, Chief Academic Officer *P.T.*
Date: May 12, 2021
Subject: Board Approval for a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Region VI Education Service Center regarding the Texas K-5 Literacy Academies
Agenda Item: H-3.

BACKGROUND

In June of 2019 in the 86th Texas Legislative session, House Bill 3 (HB3) was passed requiring all kindergarten through third grade teachers, elementary principals, any departmentalized teachers, special education teachers, and literacy specialists who serve K-3 small groups, to attend the HB3 Literacy Academies. Participants must be enrolled in the literacy academies by the 2022-2023 school year and must successfully complete the academy in order to teach grades K-3.

The state offers two options for the literacy academies. A blended model, which is essentially all online and a comprehensive model involving online learning, observation and coaching. Districts may choose to pay Regional Service Centers or a "Provider" district for each of their teachers to attend the academies, which is a pricey option (\$400 per person), or they may hire their own cohort leaders and partner with their Regional Service Center for oversight. College Station ISD has chosen to hire in house facilitators, have them trained by the state, and partner with Region VI for oversight in order to train our teachers.

It is noteworthy that within the last few weeks the state has changed the name of the academies to the K-5 Literacy Academies. Region VI has indicated that the literacy academy modules are completed at the state level for grades four and five.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended the CSISD Board of Trustees approve the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Region VI Education Service Center regarding the Texas K-5 Literacy Academies as presented.