

ATTACHMENT NO. VIII-D: Group VIII Program Request – MS

Potential motion: Move to approve Group VIII request for FIRE Club

Recommended action: Approve the motion.

Group VIII Program Request

Teacher Name: Ashley Boyer Date: 8/18/18

School/Project Location: North Boone Middle School

Project Name: FIRE Club

1. Briefly describe how students will benefit from this program:

Students will benefit from the FIRE Club for many reasons. The students are self-selected by their peers to be the "leaders" of the school as people that they trust and could go to in a moment of need. Since they are chosen by their peers, this could increase their own self-confidence, leadership skills, and ability to communicate with their peers, as well as adults. The rest of the students who are not directly leading the FIRE Club will benefit because they have peers who they trust and selected to go to when they need someone to speak to.

The FIRE Club will also add to the positive school culture. The students in the club will be able to voice the concerns from their peers. This club is designed to increase the Social Emotional Standards we are to be teaching our students in an authentic and engaging way.

2. Describe the activities of this program:

The FIRE Club stands for Friendships Include Respecting Everyone. The students were selected by their peers after being asked, "If you had a problem, and you needed to talk to a peer about it, who would it be?" The entire 7th and 8th grade selected their top 5 people, and from the results, I narrowed it down to about 10 per grade level. Once we had our top students, they had to interview with me and Mr. Pearce to be sure they were a good fit for the club. Our final members last year comprised of twenty-three 7th and 8th grade students.

The purpose of the club is to promote anti-bullying and to have FIRE members among the student body who students can go to when they either have a problem of their own, or see an issue in the school to report to someone other than adults. Then FIRE members come to a trusted adult to report if necessary. They also meet with new students, give them a tour around the school, sit with them at lunch, and make them feel welcome.

Last year, we were very busy! We started the year with a "Break the Rules" week to raise money for the hurricanes. We raised over \$300 and donated it to a Donors Choose website, where the money was allocated to a band classroom in Texas whose instruments were destroyed in the hurricane. Here is a link to the pictures they just sent us of their new instruments. It was super cool to see actual students who benefited from this fundraiser!

[Donors Choose-Mrs. Smith](#)

We also promoted "Say Something Week." This is an organization put on by the Sandy Hook Foundation to encourage students to say something when they see someone exhibiting signs of suicide, depression, violent tendencies, etc. We even related it to being a bystander in a bullying situation. During that week, on Monday, I taught a lesson to all the 8th graders about the week, Tuesday the FIRE members presented a lesson to all study hall classes, Wednesday we did a "selfie" activity at lunch, Thursday the FIRE members presented again to study halls, and Friday we all signed a banner. It was a super busy week, but I felt like it was very effective for the students. The FIRE members took a lot of pride in teaching the lessons to their peers.

We will continue to find sponsored week to teach these Social Emotional Learning Standards this week, as well as fundraising and donation events to help our local community.

The kids are really invested, and I have been happy to see their progress.

3. Give a schedule of tentative dates and times for each activity.

The FIRE Club will have weekly meetings, as well as an activity after school each month. They will also meet with the counselor during study hall one day a week to "report" on any issues they are experiencing or hearing about in school. As we pick specific "weeks" to participate in, we will do daily activities to reinforce the topics for that week.

4. Total hours of project for teacher: 26 Hours

Total cost of project: 668.20

Reviewed by Principal: Jamie Pearce Date: 8/17/18

Reviewed by Superintendent: _____ Date: _____

Project Approved: _____ Project Disapproved: _____

Reason if Disapproved: _____

Approved by the Board: _____ Date: _____