

To: Board of Education

From: Kevin Harrell, executive director, student services, ext. 2221
Laura Basham, assistant director, special education ext. 2410

Re: Contracted Services with Supplemental Health Care

Date: March 9, 2017

Background:

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) requires USD 497 to provide speech and language services to students with disabilities as documented in a student's Individual Education Plan (IEP).

In the 2016-2017 school year, two Speech and Language Pathologists have taken extended maternity leaves resulting in a lack of certified staff to provide targeted specially-designed instruction for students with disabilities in the area of speech and language. As a result, speech and language contracted services for the 2016-2017 will exceed \$20,000, and board approval is needed for these required IEP services.

Rationale:

In order to ensure a certified Speech and Language Pathologist provides required special education services documented in students' IEPs, the district needs to contract with an agency that can provide certified speech and language clinicians. The provision of these services is required by state and federal regulations.

Recommendation:

The renewal of a contract with Supplemental Health Care Work Solutions will ensure that the district continues to provide required special education services. This will allow for individual IEP requirements to be met while guaranteeing quality services are provided by certified clinicians.

Administration recommends board approval for a service contract between Lawrence Public Schools and Supplemental Health Care for certified Speech and Language clinicians; not to exceed \$65,000 for the 2016-2017 school year. Funding will come from the Medicaid-contracted services account (2750SS0000-53230).

Motion:

"I move the Board of Education approve a contract between Lawrence Public Schools and Supplemental Health Care for the 2016-2017 school year; not to exceed \$65,000."