



## BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

# AGENDA REQUEST & STAFF REPORT

**MEETING DATE:** October 6, 2021

**SUBJECT:** Youth Success Partnership (YSP) Program Update

**RECOMMENDED MOTION:**

No motion needed at this time.

**BACKGROUND AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS:**

During the Fiscal Year 2022 Budget process, the Deschutes County Budget Committee approved funds for the Youth Success Partnership (YSP), which is a three-year pilot program that builds on a partnership with Bend-La Pine Schools.

Specifically, Deschutes County Health Services (DCHS) and Bend-La Pine Schools (BLS) recognize the importance of students' health so they can learn effectively and thrive both now and in the future. Therefore, we are leveraging this powerful community partnership to place Public Health Specialists (PHSs) in each of the high schools and associated feeder schools by the 2023-2024 school year.

Collaboration between DCHS and BLS incorporates a Whole School, Whole Community, Whole Child (WSCC) model, serving the needs of the whole child in the setting where they spend most of their time – their local school. Staff, family, and community engagement, training, and support will also be incorporated within this model as part of the PHSs work, thus complementing and enhancing existing systems.

The Youth Success Partnership focus will be to identify, educate, and intervene on behalf of the whole child to support healthy school environments for optimal learning, personal well-being. Issues to be addressed will include adolescent suicide ideation, vaping, bullying, social media risks, tobacco and alcohol use, pregnancy, sexually transmitted infections and immunizations as well as other emerging risks and infectious diseases that may keep

students away or disconnected with school, which increases the likelihood of negative consequences in adulthood.

We have made significant progress since the program went into effect on July 1<sup>st</sup>. Two of the three staff to be in place for year 1 have been hired, with the third staff member to be brought on soon. A Steering Committee for the program, made up of leadership from BLS and DCHS, has been established and is meeting twice monthly to problem solve and review progress. Also, an Operations Committee has been established which meets weekly to develop the YSP strategic plan and evaluation plan. This work was enhanced by the expertise of two Consultants that were secured to work with the Operations Committee. The Evaluation Plan will include agreed upon baseline and outcome data to drive continued and sustained program evaluation work. DCHS and BLS staff will provide the BOCC an update on all of these items, seek guidance and inputs and present planned activities for the upcoming months.

**BUDGET IMPACTS:**

In FY22, Deschutes County and BLS will each provide \$161,601 (\$323,202 total) to fund program personnel and expenses.

**ATTENDANCE:**

Jennifer Hauth, Director of Social Emotional Learning, Bend-La Pine Schools

Lora Nordquist, Deputy Superintendent, Bend-La Pine Schools

Jess Lawrence, Director, Cairn Guidance

Nahad Sadr-Azodi, Public Health Director

Jessica Jacks, Prevention Programs Supervisor

Aimee Snyder, Youth Success Partnership Supervisor