



**BUSINESS OF THE CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF MERCER ISLAND**

**AB 6109
July 19, 2022
Consent Agenda**

AGENDA BILL INFORMATION

TITLE:	AB 6109: Interlocal Agreement with MISD for Mental Health Counseling Services	<input type="checkbox"/> Discussion Only <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action Needed: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Motion <input type="checkbox"/> Ordinance <input type="checkbox"/> Resolution
RECOMMENDED ACTION:	Authorize the City Manager to sign the interlocal agreement with the Mercer Island School District for mental health counseling services during the 2022-2023 school year.	

DEPARTMENT:	Youth and Family Services
STAFF:	Ali Spietz, Chief of Administration Tambi Cork, YFS Administrator
COUNCIL LIAISON:	n/a
EXHIBITS:	1. 2022-2023 Interlocal Agreement for School Mental Health Counseling Services
CITY COUNCIL PRIORITY:	2. Articulate, confirm, and communicate a vision for effective and efficient city services. Stabilize the organization, optimize resources, and develop a long-term plan for fiscal sustainability.

AMOUNT OF EXPENDITURE	\$ n/a
AMOUNT BUDGETED	\$ n/a
APPROPRIATION REQUIRED	\$ n/a

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this agenda bill is to seek approval from the City Council to enter into an Interlocal Agreement (“ILA”) with the Mercer Island School District (“District”) for mental health counseling services for the 2022-2023 school year.

- YFS mental health counselors have served in each school in the District for 43 years and under an ILA for the past 25 years.
- The proposed ILA for the 2022-2023 school year includes eight mental health and drug and alcohol school-based counseling professionals. This includes the “hire-ahead” position recently approved for Islander Middle School in anticipation of a retirement at the end of the 2022-2023 school year.
- The District contributes \$60,000 to the cost of the salaries, benefits, and certification for the eight mental health counselors covered in the ILA.

BACKGROUND

Since 1979, Youth and Family Services (“YFS”) has maintained a partnership with the District whereby YFS has placed mental health counselors in each of the District’s schools. This model allows for collaborative

counseling programs in the four elementary schools, the middle school, and the high school to include the Crest Learning Center. For the last 25 years, the City and the District have memorialized this collaboration in an annual ILA detailing staffing and costs for the counseling services.

ISSUE/DISCUSSION

As part of the proposed ILA (Exhibit 1), the City will provide eight mental health and drug and alcohol school-based counseling professionals for the 2022-2023 school year. This includes the “hire-ahead” position for Islander Middle School that was recently approved by the City Council on July 5, 2022 ([AB 6106](#)) in anticipation of a retirement at the end of the 2022-2023 school year. The ILA also allows for the inclusion of graduate-level interns as part of the staffing.

Other than the addition of the “hire-ahead” position, there are no substantive changes in this year’s ILA regarding the provision of services.

STAFFING COST ESTIMATE

The estimate below includes the full cost of salary and benefits for the eight school counseling professionals for the 2022-2023 school calendar year. The ILA reflects an annual payment of \$60,000 from the District to support the eight counselors from YFS.

2022-2023 ESTIMATE	
Staff/Time	Cost
4 Elementary School Counselors	\$375,512
2 Middle School Counselors	\$187,583
1 High School Drug/Alcohol Specialist	\$93,742
1 High School Counselor	\$86,107
Tuition & Registrations	\$3,000
Total	\$745,944
District Contribution	\$60,000
Total City Cost	\$685,944

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Authorize the City Manager to sign the interlocal agreement with the Mercer Island School District substantially in the form attached as Exhibit 1 to AB 6109.