

To: Board of Education

From: Kevin Harrell, executive director, student services
Lori Stithem, assistant director, special education

Re: Summit Behavioral Services contracted services

Date: January 14, 2019

Background:

IDEA requires the district to provide special education services to students with disabilities to meet the student's individual needs as documented in a student's Individual Education Plan (IEP). We are required to keep all students and staff safe while meeting the special education needs of each individual student to aid the student in making reasonably calculated progress considering the student's disability.

Rationale:

In order to ensure the safety of students and staff at Billy Mills Middle School, it is necessary for student, who moved into our district with an IEP, to continue to receive special education services at a private day school with specially trained staff who are able to keep the student and all others' in proximity of the student safe. The student was placed in this private placement by the previous district. Because this student needs a more restrictive environment than USD 497 can provide, the district needs to contract with the student's current, out of district placement to meet the needs of this student and keep all students and staff safe. The provision of these services is required to meet the needs of this student and will exceed \$20,000 annually. Therefore, board approval is needed for these required services.

Recommendation:

Staff recommends that the student remain in his current, out of district placement, to ensure the district provides the required special education services for this student. The administration recommends that the Board of Education approve the service contract between Lawrence Public Schools and Summit Behavioral Services for an out of district placement for this individual student, not to exceed \$60,000 for the remainder of the 2018-19 school year, including special transportation.

Motion:

"I move that the Board of Education approve the contract between Lawrence Public Schools and Summit Behavioral Services for the 2018-2019 school year, including and special transportation, not to exceed \$60,000."