
Sponsor: Workforce Solutions

Meeting Date: 8/2/2022

Title: Revenue Agreement with Saint Paul Public Schools for Earn as You Learn Program

File Number: 2022-395

Background and Rationale:

As a part of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), local school districts received federal funding to support students with a variety of needs. Saint Paul Public Schools received funds through ARPA and the Minnesota Department of Education. District leadership has decided to invest some of these funds into the successful Earn as You Learn Program.

The Earn as You Learn Program, initially seeded with Ramsey County Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) funds, provides high school students with the ability to obtain occupational certifications, such as OSHA-10, Microsoft certifications, etc. After students complete these certifications, students receive a gift card with funds to reward them for their efforts. Students complete the training and testing for these certifications outside of their classroom hours.

The Minnesota Department of Education has limited school district's abilities to use ARPA funds to compensate students, including for extra-curricular academic activities, like those in the Earn as You Learn program. Due to this, Saint Paul Public Schools approached Ramsey County to support the program by administering the gift cards to students for a small administrative fee, as Ramsey County has the infrastructure available to accomplish these tasks.

Recommendation:

The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners resolved to:

1. Authorize the County Manager to approve and execute a revenue agreement with Saint Paul Public Schools for Earn as You Learn Program for a total sum not to exceed \$64,800, in a form approved by the County Attorney's Office.
2. Authorize the County Manager to approve and execute amendments to renew the term of the agreement, increase funds or expand services, with all other terms and conditions remaining the same, in a form approved by the County Attorney's Office.

A motion to approve was made by Commissioner McGuire, seconded by Commissioner Carter.
Motion passed.

Aye: - 6: Carter, Frethem, MatasCastillo, McDonough, McGuire, and Ortega

Absent: - 1: Reinhardt

By: 

Mee Cheng, Chief Clerk - County Board