



Three Rivers School District
Quality Education Runs Deep

SCHOOL BOARD MEETING REPORT

Board Meeting Date: 9/18/19 **Superintendent:** Dave Valenzuela

Administrator/Staff: Tim Sam/Melodie Gragg

Type of Item: Informational Action

Please state your proposal briefly and clearly. What do you want the board to know, discuss, or decide?

North Valley High School requests permission to apply for a Big Question Debate grant through the National Speech and Debate Association.

Provide history/background information on your proposal:

North Valley has received this grant three times previously. North Valley students prepare to debate on a topic provided yearly. This year it is Resolved: Objective morality exists. We then conduct a school-wide debate day, with students participating in up to 5 debates on the topic over the course of the day. This has been a very successful fundraiser and educational opportunity in the past few years under Rob Moeny's leadership, and we would like to carry forward what he started. The funds from this event have been used for school improvement projects, including providing air conditioning units for several classrooms. The grant funds up to \$20 dollars per debater, with a base fund of \$450 dollars and topping out at around \$8,000.

List the advantages of your proposal:

This year we anticipate a grant of up to \$5,000. The funds are to be used to renovate curtains in our stage and commons, replacing ones which were purchased when the school was new. Additionally, all student participants in the debate day will need to display a wide variety of Oregon Educational Standards, including CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.9-10.1 - 6 as well as CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.11-12.1 - 6 and CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.WHST.9-10.1 A-E.

List possible disadvantages of your proposal:

Disruption to the school day is inevitable, however we have planned our school-wide debate day in a way which minimizes productive instructional time lost. What students miss in standard classroom activity is offset through the increased attention to critical thinking, speaking, and listening skills.

List possible alternatives that could also offer a solution to your proposal. Why were they not recommended?

The debate activities could be held after school; however, participation would be lacking as only those seriously interested in debate would participate, limiting the fund recieved.

Superintendent's recommendation(s):

Approve: Yes No