

## **2023-24 PCCD School Safety Grant Program – Meritorious Summary**

Grant Overview: A total of approximately \$18.6 million is available to support school safety. The Warren County School District is eligible for a non-competitive award of \$45,000.00 based on its average daily membership.

Grant funds may be used for:

- Funds to be used for safety & security purposes, including:
  - Safety and security assessments that meet the committee's criteria.
  - Conflict resolution or dispute management, including restorative justice strategies.
  - School-wide positive behavior support<sup>2</sup> that includes primary or universal, secondary, and tertiary supports and interventions in school entities.
  - School-based diversion programs as defined in section 1301-A3, including costs associated with the hiring of qualified professional staff members to provide assistance and services related to the programs.
  - Peer helper programs.
  - Risk assessment, safety-related, violence prevention curricula, including dating violence curricula, restorative justice strategies, mental health early intervention, self-care and suicide awareness and prevention curricula.
  - Classroom management.
  - Student codes of conduct.
  - Training to undertake a districtwide assessment of risk factors that increase the likelihood of problem behaviors among students.
  - Development and implementation of research-based violence prevention programs that address risk factors to reduce incidents of problem behaviors among students, including, but not limited to, mental health early intervention, self-care, bullying, and suicide awareness and prevention.
  - Thorough, districtwide school safety, violence prevention, emergency preparedness, and all-hazards plans, including revisions or updates to such plans and conducting emergency preparedness drills and related activities with local emergency responders.
  - Security planning and purchase of security-related technology, which may include metal detectors, protective lighting, specialty trained canines, surveillance equipment, special emergency communications equipment, automated external defibrillators, electronic locksets, deadbolts, trauma kits, and theft control devices and training in the use of security-related technology.
  - Institution of student, staff, and visitor identification systems, including criminal background check software.
  - Provision of specialized staff and student training programs, including training for Student Assistance Program team members in the referral of students at risk of violent behavior to appropriate community-based services and behavioral health services and training related to prevention

and early intervention.

- Counseling services for students, including costs associated with the training and compensation of mental health staff or expanding contracts with mental health providers that provide support to students in a school setting.
- A system for the management of student discipline, including misconduct and criminal offenses.
- Staff training programs in the use of positive behavior supports, de-escalation techniques, appropriate responses to student behavior that may require immediate intervention, and trauma-informed treatment for mental health providers in schools.
- Costs associated with the training and compensation of school resource officers and school police officers.
- Costs associated with the training and compensation of certified school counselors, licensed professional counselors, licensed social workers, licensed clinical social workers, and school psychologists.
- Administration of evidence-based screenings for adverse childhood experiences that are proven to be determinants of physical, social and behavioral health and provide trauma-informed counseling services as necessary to students based upon the screening results.
- Trauma-informed approaches to education, including 1) Hiring or contracting with certified school counselors, licensed professional counselors, licensed social workers, licensed clinical social workers, school psychologists, and other professional health personnel; 2) Developing collaborative efforts between the school entity and behavioral health professionals to identify students in need of trauma support and to provide prevention, screening, referral and treatment services; 3) Partnering with community-based organizations for peer or family support; 4) Training on youth-focused mental health first aid for school employees; and 5) Providing activities to improve mental health in a school entity and after-school programming.
- Programs providing 1) Trauma-informed approaches to education in the curriculum, including training of school employees, school directors, and behavioral health professionals to develop safe, stable, and nurturing learning environments that prevent and mitigate the effects of trauma; 2) Environments that prevent and mitigate the effects of trauma. (B) Services for children and their families, as appropriate, who have experienced or are at risk of experiencing trauma
- Programs designed to reduce community violence, including 1) Increasing access to quality trauma-informed support services and behavioral health care by linking the community with local trauma support and behavioral health systems; 2) Providing health services and intervention strategies by coordinating the services provided by eligible applicants and coordinated care organizations.
- The implementation of Article XIII-E (relating to threat assessment)

- Expanding telemedicine delivery of school-based mental health services, including equipment.
- Providing technical assistance for a school entity related to billing insurance providers in order to better provide mental health services in a school setting.
- Creating or expanding Statewide programs and intervention frameworks, such as school assistance programs, positive behavioral intervention and supports, and multitiered systems of support.
- Training and related materials for school employees or students that are evidence-based and focus on identifying the signs and signals of anxiety, depression, suicide, or self-harm in students and best practices for seeking appropriate mental health assistance.
- Providing, increasing, or enhancing partnerships between a school entity and a community-based nonprofit organization, a Statewide youth-serving nonprofit, or a library for out-of-school programming for at-risk school-age students.
- Coordinating and integrating local and county mental health services and programs for school employees or students.
- Providing online programs, educational materials, and applications to provide supplemental mental health services to students that may include peer support, self-guided evidenced-based therapeutic tools, and clinical interactions.

The district administration is currently reviewing projects that are eligible for this funding stream.

Amount of Award: \$45,000.00

Due Date/Notification of Award: Application due February 29, 2024. Notification in April/May 2024.

Alternatives if not Awarded: N/A

WCSD Resources Required: None.

Administrative Recommendation: That the Board of School Directors instructs the administration to develop and submit an application to the PCCD 2023-24 School Safety Grant (Merit) for eligible activities as allowed by funding guidelines.