



To: Members of the Board of Education

From: Dennis L. Carpenter, Ed.D.
Katie Roe, Assistant Superintendent of Academic Services
Erica Edwards, Ed.D., Director of Elementary Schools

Date: May 21, 2026

RE: B.I.S.T. Service Contracts for Elementary Schools (2026–2027)

Rationale:

The district seeks to continue its partnership with Cornerstones of Care to provide B.I.S.T. (Behavior Intervention Support Team) training and support across five elementary schools: Burke, Dobbs, Ingels, Truman, and Warford. This initiative is designed to strengthen staff capacity in managing student behavior, creating consistent expectations, and fostering safe, supportive learning environments. The contracts ensure that educators are equipped with research-based strategies to proactively address behavioral challenges and increase instructional time.

Background information:

Cornerstones of Care is a Missouri-based nonprofit organization specializing in behavioral intervention and student support services. Through the B.I.S.T. model, the organization provides professional development and ongoing support to educators focused on behavior management, de-escalation strategies, and relationship-building with students. The agreement spans the 2026–2027 school year (July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027) and includes training services for teachers to support behavioral expectations and student success

Cost Analysis:

The total cost of all agreements is **\$36,625**. Each participating school (Burke, Dobbs, Ingels, Truman and Warford) will enter into a contract totaling \$7,325, which includes \$7,000 for direct training and support services and an additional \$325 to cover technology and administrative fees.

Connection with District initiatives and Board Policy:

This investment in B.I.S.T. services supports the district’s commitment to safe, structured, and supportive learning environments. As student needs evolve, the model provides staff with consistent, research-based behavior strategies that strengthen Tier 1 supports within MTSS and help reduce disruptions while maximizing instructional time.

The work directly aligns with district priorities and the CSIP, under Focus Area 4: Success Ready Students and Focus Area 6: Safe and Supportive Schools.



Recommendation:

It is recommended that the Board of Education approve five contracts with Cornerstones of Care for B.I.S.T. services for the 2026–2027 school year for Burke, Dobbs, Ingels, Truman, and Warford Elementary Schools, in the total amount of \$36,625.

