RESOLUTION - ACTION REQUESTED 2014-130

MEETING: March 25, 2014

TO: The Board of Supervisors

FROM: Janet Bibby, District III Supervisor

RE: Business/Community Partnership Agreement with Mariposa School District

RECOMMENDATION AND JUSTIFICATION:
Approve a Business/Community Partnership Agreement for the Mariposa County Unified School District’s California Career Pathways Trust (CCPT) Grant and Authorize the Board of Supervisors Chair to Sign the Agreement. The Mariposa County High School is applying for a $600,000 grant that is to develop career pathways with local and regional employers. One of the requirements of the grant application is to provide a commitment from various community and business partners. The attached agreement indicates Mariposa County’s support of this grant application. Please see the attached staff report for additional information.

If the grant application is successful, a formal agreement between the Mariposa County School District and the County will be prepared and presented to the Board of Supervisors for approval, prior to the County becoming involved in the career pathways program.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:
None.

ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:
Do not approve the Business/Community Partnership Agreement for the Mariposa County Unified School District’s California Pathways Trust (CCPT) Grant. The School District may be unsuccessful in obtaining the grant.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:
None

ATTACHMENTS:
CCPT Grant Staff Report (DOCX)
MCUSD Community Partnership Agreement (DOCX)

CAO RECOMMENDATION
Requested Action Recommended
RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Lee Stetson, District I Supervisor
SECONDER: Merlin Jones, District II Supervisor
AYES: Stetson, Jones, Bibby, Cann, Carrier
**Justification:**

The California Department of Education, California Career Pathways Trust, is currently accepting applications for the California Career Pathways Trust. The grant was released at the end of January and the current application deadline is March 28th.

Funds of $249,750,000 have been appropriated (Assembly Bill 86, Chapter 48) for the establishment of career pathways programs. In order to be eligible, applicants must develop career pathway programs that provide students with a sequenced pathway of integrated academic and career-based education and training, aligned to current or emerging regional economic needs. It is hoped that the CCPT program will:

1. Build partnerships between schools, local/regional employers, and community colleges in order to better prepare students for the 21st century workplace, and
2. Improve student transition into postsecondary education, training and employment.

The program is based on assumptions that:

1. The program will more fully prepare students for careers and college;
2. Collaborative regional or county-wide networks are more likely to build pathway programs that lead to employment or postsecondary education that programs designed solely by the school;
3. Work-based educational and training opportunities will enhance employment prospects of low and moderate income individuals, and contribute to the stability and economic development of their community; and
4. Integrated academic and technical learning will best prepare students for both postsecondary education and careers.

A stakeholders group has been working with Mariposa County High School staff to prepare and submit an application for a $600,000 CCPT Grant. The grant will be used to expand the high school’s Agricultural, Natural Resources and Manufacturing pathways (which may include welding/agriculture mechanics, plant science, animal science, agriculture business, and fire science paths). The Mariposa County High School currently has about 50% of its students enrolled in agricultural classes and wants to use the grant to renovate facilities, hire an additional Ag teacher, and provide more Ag related elective offerings to students.

One of the grant application requirements is to show a commitment from various community and business partners. A number of local and regional private and public “partners” have been contacted for the program.

The attached draft “Business/Community Partnership Agreement” is written to provide program objectives and general responsibilities.

**Review of Provisions in Draft Agreement:**

The partnership provides:
Collaborative Partnership

- Form a strong collaboration, documented in a formal agreement, with Mariposa County Unified School District (MCUSD), postsecondary, and any other community partners.

  This is a written agreement to specify that the County will work with MCUSD to provide opportunities to be determined for MCUSD students. The County already does this through Mother Lode Job Training; this is just a written commitment to continue to partner. MCUSD plans on partnering with Merced JC as our “post-secondary” institution. The County will only interact directly with MCUSD and not any of the other partners.

- Work with MCUSD staff to create an up-to-date skills map for the industry/sector that identifies essential job requirements and competencies.

  This provision requires the County to share in verbal or written form what their expectations are for prospective employees for the County. The County already has articulated in their job descriptions and assessments for employment.

- Collaborate with MCUSD and postsecondary staff to align technical skills and workplace competencies with curriculum, course offerings, and other resources.

  This is a commitment that the County will contribute input they feel appropriate on what types of classes, skills, competencies may be lacking in MCUSD curriculum.

- Identify an “Industry Liaison” staff member to work on the career pathways program in coordination with MCUSD, who has the authority to coordinate with the school on the business partners’ behalf.

  This provision requires the County to identify a “point person” for MCUSD staff (most likely the principal) to contact for volunteer opportunities, data, etc.

- Provide requested data to MCUSD to be collected, analyzed, and submitted to a data collection repository administered by an entity to be designated by the California Department of Education (CDE).

  The County will need to validate the number of students participating in job shadowing opportunities, volunteer opportunities, etc. MCUSD will track the data through the identified county “point person”. There is a need to validate and sign off that the MCUSD’s data is accurate.

- Participate in statewide CCPT Network meetings, and to become members of a virtual learning community to share expertise and experiences on the development of career pathways programs, as well as pertinent resources, tools, and strategies.

  This is the County’s recognition that they will be part of the CCPT (California Career Pathways Trust) if the grant is approved. There should be no requirement that the County staff attends any meetings, but the opportunity would be made available.
• Provide data to Mariposa County Unified School District annually for grant reporting.

*MCUSD will be responsible for providing data that verifies the district has met the terms of the grant. MCUSD will collect all data. The data we would most likely need from the County would be validation of opportunities made available to MCUSD students.*

**Opportunities for all Students**

• Commit to provide all students enrolled in a career pathway an opportunity to participate in some form of workplace learning, including job shadowing, paid or unpaid internships, virtual and group experiences, and paid part-time and/or summer employment.

*This specifies the County will work with MCUSD to develop more formal avenues for students to “experience” County employment opportunities.*

• Provide workplace visits, speakers, and mentors for participating students and externships for teachers and community college faculty as appropriate.

*This provision would be met by the County providing guest speakers and participating in MCUSD activities around the pathway.*