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Memo

Date: August 6, 2025
To: Economic Development Committee
From: Griffin Leininger, Business Services Lead, DuPage Workforce Development Division
RE: Incumbent Worker Training Application – Marquardt School District 15

Marquardt Elementary School District 15 serves 2,550 students in the communities of Glendale Heights, Addison, Bloomingdale, Lombard, and Glen Ellyn, Illinois. Schools within this district include: Black Hawk Elementary, Charles G. Raskin Elementary, G. Stanley Hall Elementary, Marquardt Middle School, and Winnebago Elementary.

As with many other districts locally, statewide, and nationally, District 15 has experienced teacher shortages. While they do have many dedicated paraprofessionals, there are limitations to what those staff members can do as a result of their lack of higher education. These staff often have a keen understanding of the needs of each classroom they serve, and they acquire significant amounts of knowledge on-the-job. Often times, they are parents within the district or other dedicated community members. It is frequently impractical or impossible for such paraprofessionals to acquire their Bachelors degrees due to time or financial constraints.

This project, in conjunction with Bloomboard serving as apprenticeship intermediary, will provide the opportunity for 2-3 paraprofessionals to begin a registered Teacher Apprenticeship. Trainees will continue learning on-the-job while completing Bachelors degree coursework. This IWT grant will offset costs of the first year of the program. A subsequent grant will be issued for year two. At completion, trainees will receive a Bachelor's degree, their teaching certificate, a promotion, and a raise as a result of this training. Trainees will earn their Bachelor of Arts in Education. They will earn their teaching certificate in the areas required by the Illinois State Board of Education after which they will be hired by Marquardt SD15 as a full-time certified teacher.

Notes:

- * Marquardt School District 15 - 420 Employees
- * Located in Glendale Heights, Illinois
- * Number of Incumbent Workers to be Trained: 2-3
- * Total Amount Approved: \$14,100.00