**Board Memo**

**DATE:** 10/24/2023

**AGENDA ITEM DETAILS**

**School/Department:** Preschool

**Product Vendor or Grant Issuer:** Autism Helper

**Product or Grant Name:** Birth to Five / ESSER

**Date/Term (Beginning and End Dates/Year):** Dec. 1st 2023

**APPLICABLE BOARD POLICY & STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL:**

Goal 1B-#4: Ensure that diverse populations of students are provided the unique support required to be successful in the classroom. Success Measure Goal 1= Implementation of expanded preschool supports resulting in an increase in K readiness rates.

**DESCRIBE USE OF CONTRACT/PURCHASE/AGREEMENT**

We would like to use Birth to Five Committee ESSER funds to provide training for Preschool teachers and para educators on Friday, Dec. 1st. The full day, virtual training, will be provided by Sasha Long, owner of Autism Helper, a nationally recognized training company recommended by the two Boone County Autism Specialists. Sasha is a national speaker and Board-Certified Behavioral Analyst who specializes in behavioral strategies specific to students with autism. This workshop called, Positive Behavior Changes, will offer practical solutions to foster increases in positive, communicative behaviors and decreases in problem behaviors. This session will explore how to apply these strategies to everyday situations in an applicable and proactive way. This approach will focus on the changing outcomes of behaviors by looking at the entire context and approaching behavior change from a function-based perspective. Even before the pandemic, the Preschool team had witnessed an uptick in the number of students that have been diagnosed with Autism and students who are displaying Autistic like behaviors. The pandemic has accelerated behavioral concerns for students entering with disabilities and students who are entering with income eligibility into Preschool. This training will provide practical strategies that Preschool teachers and para educators can implement in their classrooms the next day.

**FUNDING FOR PURCHASES AND OTHER REQUESTS:**

**Total Cost**

$5,000

**Funding Source**

ESSER Birth to Five Grant

**\*If more than one funding source, list below along with amount or percent for each source**

N/A

**IF THIS IS A GRANT, ENTER AMOUNT TO BE AWARDED:**

$5,000

**RECOMMENDATION:**

I recommend the Board of Education approve this contract as presented.

Dr. Jim Detwiler, Deputy Superintendent / CAO

**CONTACT PERSON: (submitter)**

Dr. Michael Shires