Information Sheet- 5/8/18 – Board of Trustees Meeting

TO: Board of Trustees Item 5.3

FROM: Angelica Thomas

DATE: May 2, 2018

RE: Special Education- Allocation of Private School Funding

HISTORY: In 1997, the United States Congress substantially revised the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) related to serving special education students. The U.S. Department of Education issued regulations to implement the revised law in 1999. The new regulations affect the special education services for children with disabilities who are voluntarily placed by their parents in private schools. Again in 2004 the U.S. Congress reauthorized the IDEIA and the new Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act continues to guide our public school relationship to private school students and special education.

The San Joaquin Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA) has developed a policy entitled "Policy for Students with Disabilities Enrolled by their parents in Private Schools." The policy reiterates the federal law and regulations which states that *no private school child with a disability has an individual right to receive some or all of the special education and related services that the child would receive in the public school system. (34CFR§300.137)*

For students in grades K – 12, if the parent chooses to have their child with a disability attend a private school, services will be restricted and may be provided through the LEA in which the private school is located. Only a proportionate share of federal funds are legally available for use on services provided to students with exceptional needs who are parentally placed in private schools. When those funds are depleted, services may be discontinued for the school year. Services will not be provided on a "per child" basis. At this time Montessori School of Tracy is the only Private School located within the Jefferson boundaries.

SUMMARY: After the required consulting with representatives of private school and parents of parentally placed private school children with disabilities, the LEA has determined that the following services meet the prioritized needs of the eligible parentally placed private school students with disabilities who are enrolled in a private school in the Jefferson School District.

a. Speech and Language Services from a Speech Language Pathologist (SLP)
b. Classroom Consultation from a School Psychologist (PSYCH)

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the Board approve the SLP and Psychological services allocation listed above for the 2018 – 2019 School Year.