



SCHOOL BOARD ACTION REPORT

DATE: October 19, 2017
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For Intro: November 15, 2017
For Action: December 6, 2017

1. TITLE

BTA IV: Approve purchase of mobile computer devices for certificated staff

2. PURPOSE

The purpose of this Board action is to approve the purchase of new mobile computer devices for certificated staff (teachers, librarians, counselors, social workers, nurses, and education staff associates – Seattle Education Association (SEA) Certificated Non-Supervisory Employees) excluding substitutes.

3. RECOMMENDED MOTION

I move that the School Board authorize the Superintendent to execute purchase orders through RFP No. 06792 with XXXX for Not-To-Exceed (NTE) amount of \$5,500,000.00, which includes Washington State Sales Tax, over fiscal year 2017-2018, in the form of the draft purchase orders attached to the Board Action Report, with any minor additions, deletions, and modifications deemed necessary by the Superintendent, and to take any necessary actions to implement the purchase orders.

4. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- a. **Background** Daily, teachers and other certificated staff are carrying out vital functions from attendance and grading to communication and collaboration with students, families, and colleagues.

Computer devices are used to leverage instructional tools necessary to meet student need within a Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) framework. New devices will allow rapid access to different sources of data used to make sound instructional decisions that enhance whole group, small group, and individual instruction.

The last district computer rollout occurred from 2008 through early 2010. Because current workstations are between seven to nine years old, they are unreliable, unable to run current operating systems, and will soon be completely unsupported. The current computers limit opportunities for instruction, collaboration, and professional growth that

current mobile solutions would provide. Today, computers are often, a static device on a desk, used primarily for writing and not for more dynamic instruction or mobile work.

Community engagement for certificated staff computer replacement was thorough during the Buildings, Technology and Academics/Athletics (BTA) IV Levy campaign which was passed overwhelmingly. The supporting document for the ballot measure states:

Instructional Support and Delivery: \$27.2 million
Modernize and expand classroom audio-visual presentation systems and faculty workstations, modernize network access, and provide state-of-the-art instructional services including online learning environments to help prepare students for life in the 21st century.

Further engagement occurred at the 2015 Technology Summit, board meetings, meetings with principals, with teachers, and with Teaching and Learning leadership. The Department of Technology Services (DoTS) completed a "Road Show" with devices brought to different parts of the district to elicit feedback and did a district wide survey to teachers. Furthermore, DoTS coordinated teacher cohorts the last two summers to learn about using technology in the classroom to support teaching and learning.

Most of our peer districts, such as Kent and Renton, have been providing laptops for their teachers since 2009. Providing mobile solutions for our teachers brings us in line with common practice and allows our teachers access to collaboration tools essential to meet student need.

- b. **Alternatives:** Keep existing computers. This is not recommended because the teacher computers will keep failing and can only be replaced with donated systems which are not always available.
- c. **Research:** On August 11, 2017, RFP No.06792 was published to the public, which secured volume pricing for the purchase of computers that meet district requirements for capability, compatibility, and support.

5. FISCAL IMPACT/REVENUE SOURCE

Fiscal impact to this action will be the one-time cost for the purchase of XXXX laptops for a NTE \$5,500,000.00. When going to the school board for introduction, DoTS will have the final cost for the equipment.

The revenue source for this motion is BTA IV.

Expenditure: One-time Annual Multi-Year N/A

Revenue: One-time Annual Multi-Year N/A

6. **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

With guidance from the district's Community Engagement tool, this action was determined to merit the following tier of community engagement:

Not applicable

Tier 1: Inform

Tier 2: Consult/Involve

Tier 3: Collaborate

In February 2013, 72% of Seattle voters approved supported the BTA IV Capital levy. This levy supports the district's long-range plans to upgrade and renovate aging technology and was the culmination of an eighteen-month long process analyzing the technology needs of the district. The process included countless hours of planning, coordinating efforts throughout the district, community engagement and feedback, extensive Seattle School Board guidance and input that lead to a unanimous Seattle School Board vote in November 2012 that approved the BTA IV projects list.

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7. **EQUITY ANALYSIS**

The district intends to provide the same device model to each full-time certificated staff member. Organized support, training, and professional development (PD), in the context of curriculum, assessment, and instruction, will be more easily accessible through the efforts of the Department of Technology Services and the Instructional Technology team. Extra PD will be provided to those in greater need. In doing so, teachers will be provided an equitable foundation for growth resulting in elevated student learning.

The selection of projects in the BTA and Building Excellence (BEX) programs were designed to provide equitable access to schools across the city. As the district planned, it looked at needs through the equity toolkit to determine which projects should be prioritized.

8. **STUDENT BENEFIT**

Explicit and implicit benefits to students, because of appropriating functional mobile devices to teachers and other certificated staff, include improved instructional quality, increased collaboration to meet student need, equity of resources, and ultimately improved student achievement.

Instructional Quality

As teachers leverage the mobility and accessibility afforded by a mobile laptop they will have greater opportunity to connect to Seattle Public Schools online resources such as Schoology, Office 365, MTSS tools, gradebook, Online Library Resources, and numerous educational applications. With increased access to online resources, teachers can efficiently craft engaging and responsive lessons in ways that more closely mirror the 21st century workplace. The new laptop has the capacity to connect remotely to presentation stations allowing teachers to visually address on-the-fly questions and model collaborative problem solving. With a mobile laptop in hand, teachers can move about the classroom to more closely observe student progress. These real-time observations facilitate a responsive feedback loop to students and families and provide critical information for lesson planning.

Certificated Staff Collaboration and Professional Development

Opportunities for increased collaboration amongst colleagues is a major benefit to teachers, staff, and students. Laptops are a valuable tool to enhance professional learning opportunities in a variety of settings. Staff will be able to bring their device, replete with digital professional materials, to their Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) and staff meetings. Having mobile computing devices allows teachers to share work samples and calibrate grading procedures, resulting in equitable assessment practices across sections. In addition, staff can efficiently share and discuss concepts learned during out-of-district professional development experiences. Laptops increase opportunities for real-time access and sharing of information amongst staff, enabling effective and responsive lesson planning. Additionally, as a community using the same device, staff will support one another as they become more fluent with their use of the laptop and district tools such as Office 365 and Schoology.

Student Achievement & Eliminating the Opportunity Gap

By providing teachers with technology-based resources, networks, and supports, our district can continue to address the opportunity gaps affecting historically underserved students. With the technical foundation of the district's move to digital MTSS tools, the device will enable effective analysis of student data, access to digital curriculum and tracking interventions. The combination of these opportunities will exponentially strengthen staff's ability to make instructional decisions, interact in professional learning contexts, resulting in improved teacher practice with an eye toward closing the opportunity gap.

9. WHY BOARD ACTION IS NECESSARY

- Amount of contract initial value or contract amendment exceeds \$250,000 (Policy No. 6220)
- Amount of grant exceeds \$250,000 in a single fiscal year (Policy No. 6114)
- Adopting, amending, or repealing a Board policy
- Formally accepting the completion of a public works project and closing out the contract
- Legal requirement for the School Board to take action on this matter
- Board Policy No. _____, [TITLE], provides the Board shall approve this item

Other: _____

10. POLICY IMPLICATION

Per Board Policy No. 6220, Procurement, any contract over \$250,000 must be brought before the Board for approval.

11. BOARD COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

This motion was discussed at the Curriculum and Instruction meeting on November 7, 2017. The Committee reviewed the motion and moved the item forward to the full Board with a recommendation for consideration.

12. TIMELINE FOR IMPLEMENTATION

Upon Board approval of this motion, purchase orders will be executed to begin the procurement process. Teachers will begin to receive their new computers beginning 2018.

13. ATTACHMENTS

- RFP #06792 Packet (to be attached prior to December 6 Action)
- Draft Purchase Orders (to be attached prior to December 6 Action)