

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

First Amendment to Agreement and Additional Spending Authority 58-102E – Instructure Canvas Learning Management System (LMS)

This request is to approve the First Amendment and increase spending authority by \$73,900 to enhance Instructure Canvas Learning Management system. The School Board approved the Instructure Agreement during the Regular School Board Meeting as item FF-2 on June 15, 2016, with a spending authority of \$5,304,045. This request is to obtain professional services to implement functionality within Canvas that will allow students with specific plans or conditions to be flagged in the Canvas Gradebook. This contract is for professional services and the ongoing hosting cost for the Canvas enhancements.

Upon implementation, teachers will be able to see student’s individual education plan information in the Canvas system so that they are aware of conditions and plans that apply to a student in their course prior to creating lesson plans and without leaving Canvas.

This project is directly tied to the goal of High-Quality Instruction. This additional Canvas Gradebook feature will enable teachers to better deliver high-quality instruction by providing a quick glance at students who need to be provided additional accommodations during instruction. Specifically, this enhancement will help teachers to design more effective teaching practices and develop appropriate learning environments and experiences which are specifically matched to the needs of the students in their classroom.

This enhancement was requested based on feedback from the Data Collection and Review Committee and other work groups to simplify the way teachers access information about their students who have academic plans. Currently, teachers are struggling to easily identify which students participate in various BCPS programs. This enhancement will alert teachers to students participating in specific program plans such as SWD (Students with Disabilities), PMP (Progress Monitoring Plan), ELL (English Language Learners), RTI-A (Response to Intervention- A), RTI-B (Response to Intervention- B), Gifted, Section 504, Health Conditions) by flagging them as such in the Canvas Gradebook. Currently, this information is only available to teachers through multiple locations or paper format, which is easily misplaced or lost.

Without having this new functionality, teachers will need to visit multiple platforms prior to creating their lesson plans to determine the appropriate accommodations for their students.

We continue to try to make the work effort of our teachers easier and more streamlined. By developing this new functionality within the Canvas Gradebook teachers will be able to differentiate instruction with information from student’s educational plans.

Financial Impact

The anticipated additional spending authority request is for \$73,900.

New Estimated Spending

<u>Enhancement costs</u>	<u>\$49,900</u>
<u>\$6,000 annual increase in hosting costs x four (4) years</u>	<u>\$24,000</u>
<u>New total</u>	<u>\$5,377,945</u>

The approval of this recommendation does not mean the new authorized amount will be spent.

Funding for this enhancement is budgeted within the Digital Classroom Plan (item FF-1 board date February 07, 2017), only an increase in the spending authority is required.