

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Recommendation of \$500,000 or Less 58-126E – Learning Sciences International Licensing

This request is to approve the agreement between Learning Sciences International, LLC (LSI) and The School Board of Broward County, Florida (SBB), for one (1) year, starting July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019. LSI will provide districtwide licensing for iObservation licensing.

The licensing of the teacher evaluation system is comprised of the following components:

- iObservation Tool and Resource Library for Teacher Observation
- Fidelity Module for calibrating, assessing and certifying observer accuracy to sustain the observer credentialing process.

iObservation Tool and Resource Library for Teacher Observation

In 2011, SBBC, in collaboration with The Broward Teachers Union (BTU), adopted the Marzano Casual Model for Teacher Evaluation. Since the implementation of the teacher evaluation system in 2011, the iObservation tool has been used to collect, manage, and report longitudinal data from classroom walkthroughs and both informal and formal teacher observations. This tool houses Instructional Practice, Deliberate Practice, and Student Performance Scores annually. From this system, overall evaluation scores are pulled and provided to various departments to determine raises, bonuses, and employment decisions.

This tool also supports a library of online resources. As teachers' areas of need are revealed with the Marzano Protocols, the online resource library facilitates on-demand professional development for improving instructional effectiveness. Teachers can access a rich collection of resources within the library including professional development modules, exemplary videos of best instructional strategies, lecture videos by Dr. Robert Marzano, and research-based articles on instructional practices.

Fidelity Module for Calibrating, Assessing and Certifying Observer Accuracy

This component of the Agreement provides licenses for the District to lead calibration and assessment activities for observers (administrators). This module contains master scored videos to run the calibration and assessment exercises for observer credentialing. It also includes ongoing updates and enhancements to the calibration and assessment exercises and assists in sustaining the observer credentialing process.

New for 2018 is the Focused Teacher Evaluation Model for Teachers

As with all systems, the Marzano Framework adapts the model based on on-going research. In 2014, the District moved from the 2011 model to the 2014 version as language and protocols were more clearly defined. Beginning in the fall of 2018, all traditional middle school teachers, as well as teachers from Millennium 6-12 Collegiate Academy, will move from the 2014 model to the 2017 "focused" model. This version combines the sixty (60) Elements from the 2014 version into twenty-three (23) Elements, with a focus on standards-based instruction.

In addition to the framework shift for our middle school teachers, the District is moving all non-classroom teachers from the 2014 learning maps to the 2017 version. The non-classroom teachers will move from having sixty (60) Elements within three (3) different maps (Teachers/Support, Psychologists/Social

Recommendation of \$500,000 or Less
58-126E – Learning Sciences International Licensing
May 8, 2018 Board Agenda
Page 2

Workers/Counselors or Technical Support) to one learning map with seventeen (17) Elements.

The Evaluation Sub-Committee (with District and Broward Teachers Union representatives) reached an agreement to move to these models beginning in the fall of 2018. There are no additional fees to move to the revised models.

Financial Impact

The total spending authority requested is \$373,000, which represents a savings of \$51,800 over last year. The current agreement was approved by the School Board on June 13, 2017, as agenda item EE-24 with a spending authority of \$424,800 and contract term of June 12, 2017 through June 30, 2018. The reduction in price is primarily due to the long-standing partnership between LSI and SBBC in addition to a request for a reduced fee.

This item is funded by two (2) sources: the Coaching & Induction Teacher Incentive Fund (TIF) Grant (\$323,000) and Title II, Part A – Supporting Effective Instruction (\$50,000) budgets.

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