

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Recommendation to Approve Agreement FY21-119 – Interactive Learning Experiences Software (Nearpod)

Introduction

Responsible: Procurement & Warehousing Services (PWS)

This request is to approve the new agreement between Nearpod Inc. and The School Board of Broward County, Florida (SBBC), for one (1) year, starting August 1, 2020 through July 31, 2021, with an option to renew for two (2) additional one (1) year periods. Nearpod's instructional software is an online learning application modernizing traditional instruction. It engages students by allowing teachers to synchronize with student devices, integrate multimedia, and assess student understanding in real-time through formative assessments. Nearpod is compatible across all devices and integrates with Office 365, Newsela, and the Canvas Learning Management System.

The spending authority being requested is \$566,300.

Goods/Services Description:

Responsible: Innovative Learning

The District continues to review software purchases to develop a managed menu of software applications used with fidelity across appropriate grade levels and aligned to specific student needs. As part of this on-going review of curriculum and instructional materials, this request for the purchase of an interactive learning experience software (Nearpod) reflects a review of the purpose for the purchase, the grade level bands for which the purchase will be used, and how the software fits within the software landscape of the District. This purchase will reflect a reduction in the number of platforms used, a consolidation of functionality, and an improvement in interoperability.

Nearpod is available to all Broward County Public Schools (BCPS) teachers and students via the Clever Launchpad. Nearpod partners with Elementary and Secondary Learning to align their product with the scope and sequences for elementary, middle, and high school courses. The use of this product allows the teacher to seamlessly integrate highly engaging instructional activities for students during the COVID-19 quarantine and future distance learning activities. Nearpod's Learning Tool Integration allows teachers to create Canvas assignments for students to work within the Nearpod platform, and for each student's Nearpod report to be passed back to Canvas. Teachers then have the option to provide specific feedback and assign a grade via Speedgrader. This grade can then be passed into Pinnacle through a single click.

Nearpod Use

Currently, with moving to Distance Learning since March 13, 2020, the District has exceeded the eight thousand (8,000) licenses that were expected to use this past school year. BCPS teachers are now using Nearpod to create and deliver student lessons in BCPS. They can select content from over eight thousand (8,000) customizable, standards-aligned lessons for all subject areas and grade levels. Although Innovative Learning is bringing this product forward specifically for its Digital Citizenship and Keyboarding components, Nearpod lessons are used throughout the District in a variety of departments: Applied Learning (Civic Engagement), ESOL and World Languages (English Language Learners), and Career, Technical, Adult and Community Education (CTACE). With this Agreement, teachers will continue to have access to all content described in Table 1 below.

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Table 1

Component	Description
<p><u>Nearpod Lesson Library</u> Teachers can transform instruction with eight thousand plus (8,000+) customizable, standard-aligned lessons for all K-12 subject areas. Usage drives deeper learning with rigorous content from well-known publishers in all academic areas.</p> <p><u>K-12 Lesson Library 2019-2020 Use Statistics</u> More than nine hundred eighty-seven thousand (987,000) students join during this school year.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designed in partnership with respected publishers and built on research-based instructional models such as Release of Responsibility, BCPS Secondary Science’s Adopted 5e Model, and Universal Design for Learning. • Lessons are easily integrated into Canvas via LTI with grade passback functionality. • Lessons are easily searchable by standard, resource type, and grade level to align with instructional needs. • Lesson structure provides teachers with the ability to perform formative assessments during the delivery of the lesson. • Students maintain the ability to view lessons multiple times when embedded within the Canvas Learning Management System.
<p><u>Digital Citizenship & Literacy (DCL)</u> K-12 lessons that empower students to use technology safely, responsibly, and effectively with Nearpod’s Digital Citizenship and Literacy supplemental curriculum.</p> <p><u>(DCL) 2019-2020 Use Statistics</u> More than one hundred forty-six thousand (146,000) students join during this school year.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keyboarding skills instruction through a Typsey partnership. • Support instruction in Digital Citizenship and Media Literacy skills through a partnership with Common Sense Education. • Support instruction in computer science, coding, applications of technology through a partnership with CodeMonkey. • Four hundred plus (400+) learning experiences. • Always accessible to students through the Learning Never Closes initiative. • K-5 lessons adapted with voiceovers to empower students to use technology safely, responsibly, and effectively at home during COVID-19 school closures.
<p><u>College and Career Exploration (CCE)</u> K-12 lessons that increase access and exposure to college and career opportunities as students explore college pathways and career clusters.</p> <p><u>(CCE) 2019-2020 Use Statistics</u> More than four thousand three hundred thirty (4,330) students join during this school year.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting district use of Naviance in grades 6-12 while exposing college and career exploration in grades K-5. • Equal access to future opportunities as students explore college pathways and career clusters. • Dynamic media, like virtual reality. Students can experience virtual college visits and take trips to special career sites safely from wherever they are. • Two hundred plus (200+) learning experiences for college and career pathways. • Series Components Include career exploration, college exploration, lifelong learning strategies, financial literacy.

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<p><u>Nearpod SEL –</u> K-12 lessons help teachers to build students’ social and emotional skills in the classroom.</p> <p><u>(Nearpod SEL) 2019-2020 Use Statistics</u> More than twelve thousand seven hundred sixty (12,760) students join during this school year.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One hundred fifty plus (150+) learning experiences built from CASEL’s leading framework to facilitate student development of SEL competencies. • SEL in Action: Self-Awareness, Self-Management, Social Awareness, Relationship Skills, Responsible Decision Making. • SEL in Digital Life: Integrity, Self-Control, Humanity, Courage. • Growth Mindset Practices: Taking Responsible Risks, Metacognition, Thinking Flexibly, Persistence. • Lifelong Learning Strategies: Goal Setting, Balancing Obligations, Time Management, Critical Thinking. • Mindful Moments: Brain Breaks, Mindfulness Exercises, Metacognitive Reflections.
<p><u>Nearpod for EL</u> K-12 lessons designed to support English Language Learners through scaffolded access to rigorous, grade-level learning experiences and language instruction</p> <p><u>(Nearpod EL) 2019-2020 Use Statistics</u> More than fifty-seven thousand (57,000) student joins for this school year.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Built-in partnership with many of SBBC's favorite Nearpod publishing partners. • One thousand plus (1000+) learning experiences. • Lessons infused with multiple media resources to support the English Language Learner • Newcomer Essentials: Survival Language for Situational, Real World Moments, Interactive Virtual Reality Field Trips that help students acclimate to their school and community. • EL Content Companions: Lessons to support Reading, Math, Science, and Social Studies, Embedded SEL Moments & Metacognitive Reflections, Integrated Language Objectives. • Academic Vocabulary: four hundred (400) Academic Vocabulary Terms, Real World Connections to Represent Abstract Vocabulary, Opportunities to Model Language Usage in Small and Whole Group Settings. • Grammar: Grammar and Syntax for all levels of English Learners, Skills Practice for Effective Communication.

Historical Use of Nearpod in Broward Schools

The Bilingual/ESOL Department first established a partnership with Nearpod during the 2016- 2017 school year to provide one hundred (100) Digital Developmental Language Arts (Digital DLA) teachers with a subscription to Nearpod EL. Table 2 below illustrates the expansion of use across schools and departments over the past four (4) years.

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Table 2

Year	Description of Use
2016 – 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bilingual/ESOL Department purchased Nearpod EL Library to give access to one hundred (100) Digital DLA teachers. • Margate Middle School purchased the Nearpod Premium Site License.
2017 – 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bilingual/ESOL Department purchased Nearpod EL Library to give access to one-hundred-fifty (150) DLA teachers. • Lake Forest Elementary, Silver Ridge Elementary, and Margate Middle Schools purchased Nearpod Premium Site Licenses.
2018 – 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bilingual/ESOL Department purchased Nearpod EL Library to give access to one hundred fifty (150) Digital DLA teachers. • Gator Run Elementary, Lake Forest Elementary, Pembroke Lakes Elementary, Rock Island Elementary, Silver Ridge Elementary, Flacon Cove Middle, Margate Middle, McNichol Middle, Olsen Middle, Walter C. Young Middle, and Westpine Middle Schools purchased Nearpod Premium Site Licenses. • Innovative Learning purchased Nearpod Premium licenses for teachers to earn when attending the Canvas Advanced LTI Course one hundred seventy-seven (177) teachers), Broward Tech Meetup, and Nearpod Certified Educator Professional Learning Workshops.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requested and continued use by BCPS District Departments: Applied Learning (Civic Engagement), Bilingual/ESOL, CTACE, Elementary Learning, Equity & Diversity, Innovative Learning, and Secondary Learning • Curriculum alignment and support for forty-five (45) BCPS courses ranging from grades K-12 and across all content areas. • Customized Digital Citizenship lessons for K-12 students to use during COVID-19 learn from home procedures. • BCPS Teachers downloaded more than one hundred sixty-three thousand (163,000) lessons from the Nearpod library, created more than twenty-eight thousand (28,000) lessons, and logged more than five hundred ninety-four thousand (594,000) student joins via the Nearpod-Canvas integration. • Innovative Learning and Nearpod sponsored more than thirty (30) professional development opportunities for teachers, administrators, and school counselors through site-based learning events and online Canvas instruction.

Student Achievement and Engagement Data to Date

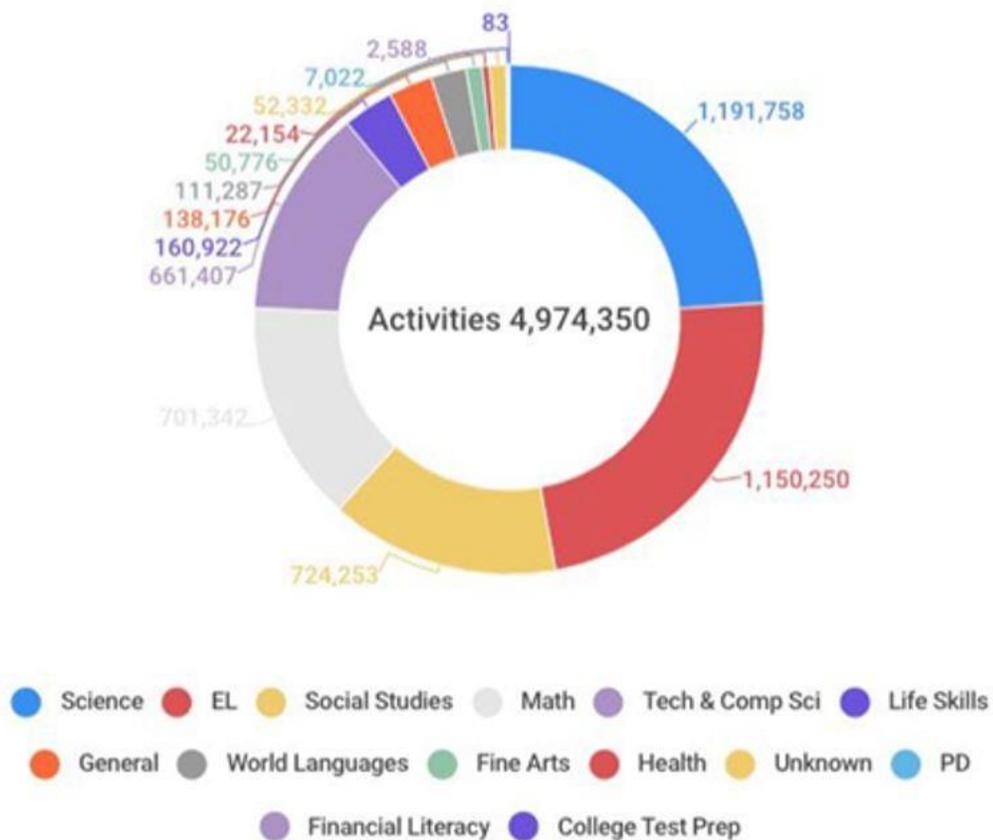
1. Increasing Broward Student Engagement

Nearpod is a comprehensive student engagement platform that drives one hundred (100) percent student participation through inclusive, immersive, and collaborative-rich learning experiences. Through real-time synchronization to student devices, Nearpod’s formative assessment feedback loop continually informs the teacher’s instruction to better differentiate for the diverse learners in the classroom. Student interactions are defined as the number of times students answered a quiz, poll, open-ended question, draw-it, or matching pair activity within a lesson.

Student Interactions by Type

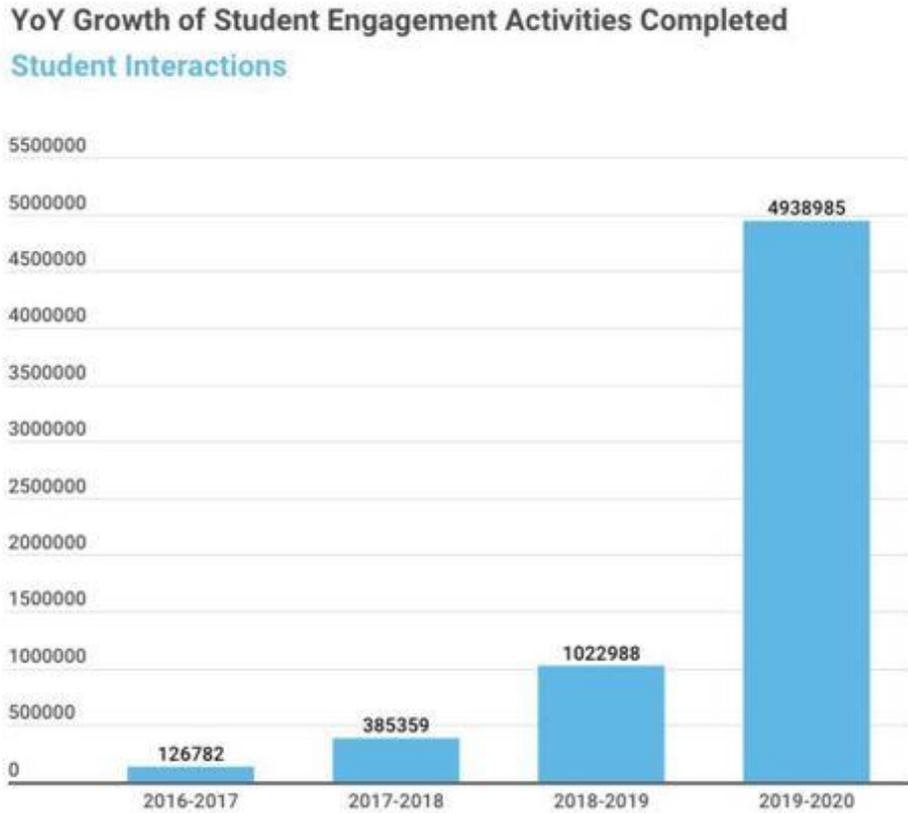
Nearpod Quiz	1,978,082
Nearpod Poll & Open-Ended Question	1,820,121
Nearpod Draw-It Activity	954,844
Nearpod Matching Pairs Activity	185,938

Student Interactions by Subject Area



2. Broward and Nearpod Student Engagement Year Over Year (YOY) Growth

Since 2016, Broward teachers have organically become users, and the total number of Nearpod accounts exceed five thousand (5,000). With targeted investments starting in 2016, Broward has experienced a one hundred fifty (150) percent+ YOY growth on student engagement moments. With increased alignment to Broward initiatives, Nearpod surpassed its goal to increase the 2020 impact by one hundred fifty (150) percent YOY growth.



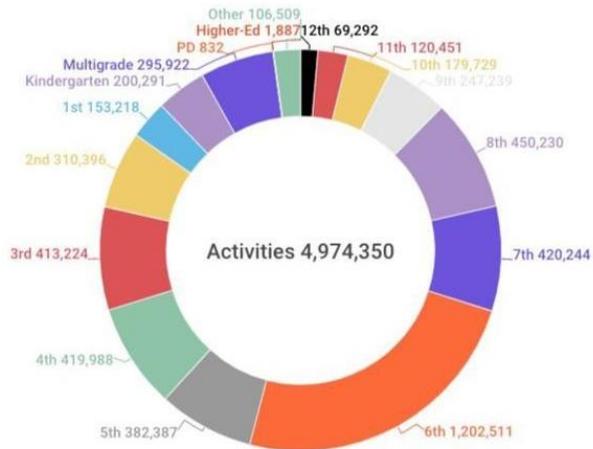
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More than two hundred twenty-five (225) Broward Schools used Nearpod during the 2019-2020 school year. The top ten (10) Schools and use by grade level are shown below.

Top 10 Schools by Use

- Gator Run Elementary
- Westglades Middle
- Gulfstream Academy of Hallandale Beach
- Forest Glenn Middle
- Margate Middle
- Meadowbrook Elementary
- New Renaissance Middle
- Glades Middle
- Eagle Point Elementary
- Discovery Elementary

Activity by Grade Level
Student Interactions



3. Increasing Broward Teacher Usage of Digital Tools and Resources

To increase teacher usage within the Nearpod platform, Nearpod supports all teachers – from creators to curators to champions to connectors.

- **Creator** – Transform existing PowerPoints through an instant upload from their Microsoft One Drive with twenty-five plus (25+) Nearpod activity types, including access to over three hundred fifty-thousand (350,000) virtual reality trips.
- **Curators** – Model effective digital lesson delivery with eight thousand plus (8,000+) Florida standards-aligned lessons in all grade levels and subject areas.
- **Champions** – Create grade-level experts through the Nearpod Certified Educator program to enhance PLC work and maximize Canvas investment with teacher-generated curated playlists.
- **Connectors** – Deliver high-quality, engaging lessons at the front of the classroom or virtually through Microsoft Teams integration.

Since August 2019



594,000 student joins through Canvas



51,400+ lessons launched by Broward teachers



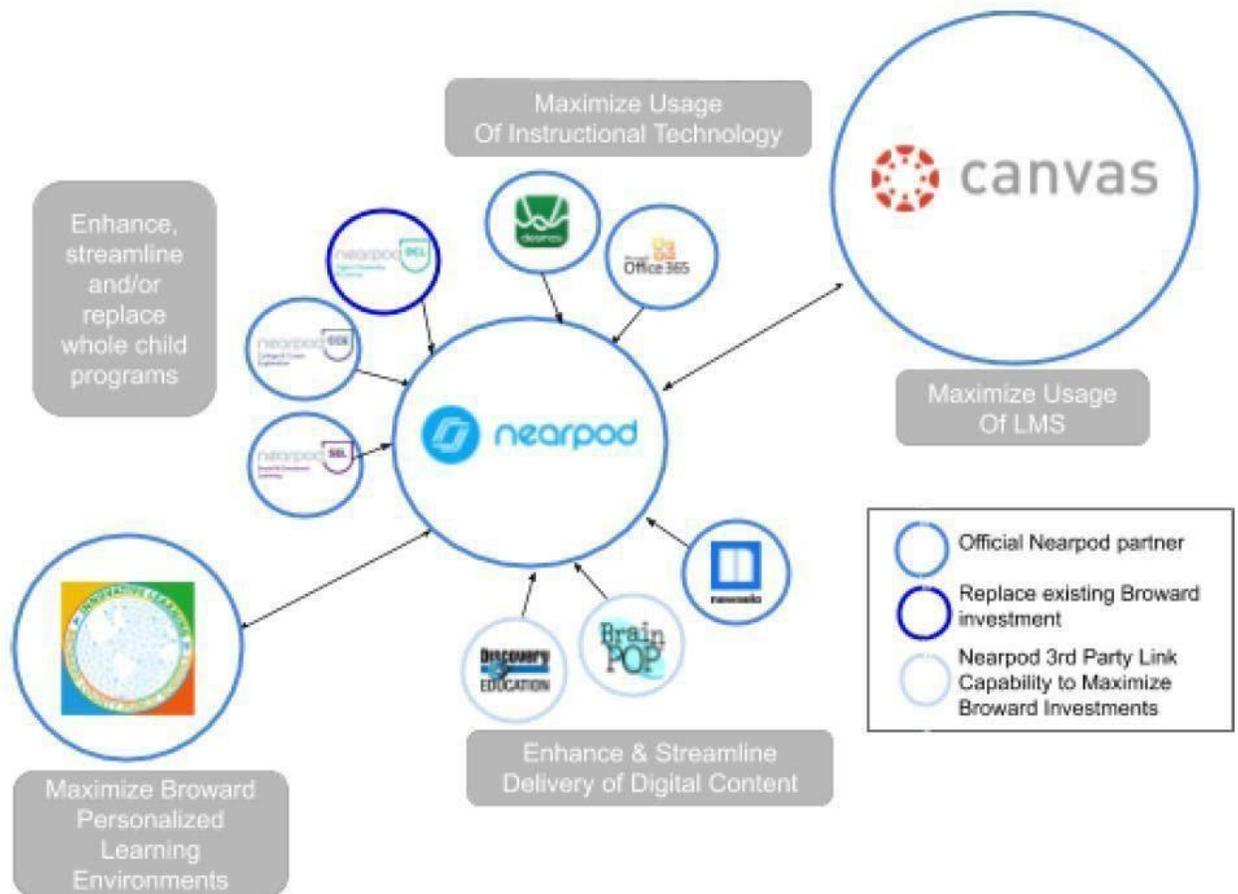
Over **100** Digital Citizenship, Keyboarding, and CTE lessons customized for Broward



Over **450** Broward educators pursued Nearpod Certification status on their own time

4. Reducing Broward Redundancies

Acting as the lesson delivery operating system of the modern classroom, Nearpod reduces Broward redundancies by streamlining the implementation of Broward instructional technology (i.e., Desmos) and digital content (i.e., Newsela) initiatives within one seamless, intuitive experience. Nearpod maximizes investments by driving usage of any device and through its official partnerships with Microsoft Office 365 and Canvas. Nearpod is replacing Broward’s Learning.com investment, further streamlining the implementation of important Broward initiatives.



Nearpod and the Alignment to the Technology Integration Matrix

The District utilizes the Technology Integration Matrix (TIM) as the tool to determine how technology is being implemented into our classrooms. The TIM provides a framework for describing and targeting the use of technology to enhance learning. The TIM incorporates five interdependent characteristics of meaningful learning environments (Active, Collaborative, Constructive, Authentic, and Goal-Directed). These characteristics are associated with five (5) levels of technology integration (Entry, Adoption, Adaptation, Infusion, and Transformation). Exhibit B showcases how Nearpod lessons align with the TIM so that teachers make intentional and informed decisions as to which lessons to use with appropriate levels of technology readiness.

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Procurement Method
Responsible: PWS

Pursuant to Rule 6A -1.012, 11(b), and 14, Florida Administrative Code, and Purchasing Policy 3320, Section II.H, authorizes the purchase of any type of copyrighted materials, instructional materials and computer software without competitive solicitations.

Financial Impact

The spending authority being requested is \$566,300, as detailed below. Funding will be taken from the CARES Act.

Description	Qty	Total
<p>Nearpod K-12 Lesson Library Over seven thousand (7,000) K-12 Standards-aligned lessons built with research-based instructional models.</p> <p>Nearpod EL</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EL Content Companions • Academic Vocabulary • Newcomer Essentials <p>Nearpod Future Ready Package Included Promotional Packages: Nearpod K-12 College and Career Exploration Nearpod Social-Emotional Learning</p>	Up to 8,000 teachers	\$960,000
Discount		(\$460,000)
Sub Total		\$500,000
Curriculum Alignment Service		\$66,300
Total		\$566,300

The previous agreement FY20-111 started on August 6, 2019 through July 31, 2020, with an approved spending authority of \$566,300. The financial impact amount represents an estimated contract value; however, the amount authorized will not exceed the estimated contract award amount.