

To: Board of Education

From: Jerri Kemble, assistant superintendent, leading, learning & technology, ext. 2755
Darcy Kraus, director, elementary support, ext. 2561

Re: Istation Math licenses and implementation professional development

Date: July 20, 2017

Background:

The onset of Kansas College and Career Ready Standards (KCCRS) necessitated a review of our core resources and tiered interventions. Since that time, Lawrence Public Schools has endeavored to create a continuum of resources to support our students at all levels of proficiency.

During the 2016-17 academic year, the state of Kansas funded Istation (reading) for all students within its borders. Istation (reading) provides formative assessments, adaptive curriculum, personalized data profiles, teacher resources, professional development, a school-to-home connection, and most importantly, proven results. This program was very well received by our students and staff for both its ease of use and efficacy. Istation (reading) augments our core resource and adds a robust, independent and focused support for students. Istation (reading) also provides teachers with timely data and suggested content to target areas of deficit based on formative assessments.

District and building leadership identified a need to amplify student supports in math, as well as reading, and believes that Istation (math) will afford the platform whereby students will be provided the adaptive practice needed to meet KCCRS proficiency standards.

Rationale:

Currently, Lawrence Public Schools does not have a structured math intervention program accessible to all students in grades K-5. District and building leadership determined this is an area of deficit which could be amended by the purchase of Istation (math). In tandem, Student Services will be purchasing 50 Istation (math) licenses to be used at the middle school level to meet the needs of some of our most challenged students in grades 6-8.

The state of Kansas has extended funding for Istation (reading) for an additional two years due to its popularity and proven results. We would like to afford our students the same opportunity in the content area of math.

In addition to the online licenses, professional development to maximize utilization will be provided to both teachers and administrators beginning in August with subsequent dates calendared throughout the remainder of the year. Istation representatives will provide the professional development. Topics will be determined in conjunction with Lawrence Public Schools leadership to best meet the needs of our students, teachers and administrators.

Recommendation:

The administration recommends the payment of \$45,405 for Istation (math) licenses and onsite professional development (no shipping cost). Funding of this payment has been budgeted and will be paid as such:

- Title I elementary buildings – 4018IN7000-56560 (online access) and 4018IS7000-53200 (Professional Development)
- Non-Title elementary buildings - 2410007000-56560 (online access) and 2022137000-53200 (Professional Development).
- Middle School licenses – 2750SS7100-56560

Motion:

“I move that the Board of Education approve payment in the amount of \$45,405 for the purchase of Istation (math) licenses and onsite professional development for 2017-2018 implementation.”