

To: Board of Education

From: Kevin Harrell, executive director, student services
Laura Basham, director, early childhood

Re: Don Johnston Product Contract

Date: August 13, 2018

Background:

Students with disabilities rely on various tools to gain access to curriculum and improve engagement with content. Since 2015 the Special Education Department has relied on Don Johnston Human Learning Tools to assist ALL students access content in both general and special education settings. These easy to use Chrome extensions work across computer platforms and digital text including iPads apps, on-line content, PDFs, Bookshare books, and Kindle digital text. Students can access these supports within the district as well as at home. Currently these tools are used by students with disabilities as required IEP accommodations, English Language Learners (ELL), students with 504 Plan accommodations, as well as students in general education with no specific area of need other utilizing useful tools.

Rationale:

In order to continue providing resources to support required IEP accommodations and ensure students with disabilities have access to general education content and continue to allow ALL students with varied abilities and needs access to useful tools, the district needs to continue an annual subscription for these products. The provision of these resources is required by state and federal regulations as the district is obligated to meet needs within a student's IEP.

Recommendation:

Staff recommends that we move forward with an annual district wide subscription to Don Johnston products. This will allow for individual IEP requirements to be met with continued access to these products as well as continued use for all teachers and students whom deem these products useful.

The administration recommends that the Board of Education approve the 3 year, prepaid subscription of Don Johnston learning and evaluation tools for teacher and student to use both on and off school campus; not to exceed \$48,000 for the 2018-2019 through 2020-2021 school year. The prepaid subscription results in a savings of approximately \$12,000. Funding will come from the Medicaid services account.

Motion:

"I move that the Board of Education approve the 3 year prepaid subscription for the 2018-2019 through 2020-2021 school year; not to exceed \$48,000 per contract agreement."