

To: Board of Education

From: Jerri Kemble, assistant superintendent, leading, learning & technology
Ellen Willets, director, learning & technology

Re: Kajeet hotspot service renewal & purchase of replacement devices

Date: August 13, 2018

Background:

In May 2016, and in anticipation of the 2016-17 rollout of 1:1 iPads in the middle schools and 1:1 iPad and MacBook Pilot Program at the high schools, the District surveyed families of LPS students to ascertain how many students lacked internet access in the home. The results indicated approximately 400 families lacked internet connectivity. To bridge this 'digital divide' and ensure equitable access to technology (Board of Education Goal I), the District purchased 352 Kajeet hotspots with 9-month service plans; these are distributed among the middle and high schools.

Hotspots are checked out from the Library Media Centers using Destiny, software utilized by the district for inventory management of library and district instructional resources. At the end of each school year, the number of lost/damaged devices is calculated and replacements purchased, in addition to renewing service on all devices for the upcoming school year.

At the conclusion of the 2016-17 school year, 25 fully-kitted Kajeet hotspots were reported lost or irreparably damaged, in addition to 27 Kajeet cases, 72 charging bricks and 17 USB charging cables. Replacement costs totaled \$3,629.48. Service renewal for the hotspots (including replaced devices) was \$63,200.06 and approved by the Board on September 11, 2017.

At the conclusion of the 2017-18 school year, 54 fully-kitted Kajeet hotspots were reported lost or irreparably damaged, in addition to 4 Kajeet cases, 15 charging bricks, 13 USB charging cables and 2 SIM cards.

Rationale:

These CIPA-compliant, mobile hotspots are available for check out in the school Library Media Centers and enable students without internet in the home to access digital curricula and stay consistently engaged in their learning. In order to continue ensuring equitable internet access to students, a 9-month service renewal is necessary, in addition to the replacement of lost devices and accessories.

Recommendation:

The administration recommends the renewal of 9-month internet service, from Kajeet, to 352 Kajeet hotspots at the cost of \$64,044.29. The administration also recommends the purchase of replacement Kajeet hotspots and accessories, from Kajeet, at the cost of

\$5,673.26. Total cost for service renewal and purchase of replacement hotspots and accessories is \$69,717.55.

Motion:

"I move that the Board of Education approve renewal of 9-month internet service, from Kajeet, to 352 Kajeet hotspots at the cost of \$64,044.29 and the purchase of replacement Kajeet hotspots and accessories, from Kajeet, at the cost of \$5,673.26, for a total cost of \$69,717.55 to be paid from the General Fund – Instructional Technology."