

To: Board of Education

From: Dr. Terry McEwen, director, assessment, research & accountability

Re: Pre-ACT for grades 9 and 10

Date: November 26, 2018

Background:

2014-15 - With input from high school principals, we administered the online version of the pre-ACT (purchased from Pearson Publishing) known as Aspire. Multiple issues arose with this administration and this assessment was abandoned because of problems reported across the nation.

2016-2017 – With increased need for additional high school assessment data beyond the state assessment, and at the request of high school principals, we investigated the use of the more traditional Pre-ACT assessment (paper/pencil assessment). The Pre-ACT was successfully administered in the fall of 2016 to 9th and 10th grade students in both high schools and at LVS.

2017-2018 – The pre-ACT continues to be administered successfully at LHS, FSHS, and LVS to all 9th and 10th grade students.

Rationale:

Pre-ACT is an assessment aligned to the ACT assessment. Pre-ACT results have predictive values for students as they prepare for their first ACT. Pre-ACT is useful in guiding students to career exploration in addition to its academic value. In 2018-19, this assessment will be in February and administered to 9th and 10th grade students during the state sponsored ACT testing days.

Recommendation:

The administration recommends the payment of \$25,000.00 for Pre-ACT. Funding of this payment has been budgeted and will be paid from the assessment account.

Motion:

"I move that the Board of Education approve payment in an amount not to exceed \$25,000 for the purchase of the Pre-ACT for 2018-2019."