



To: Harlem School District Board of Education
Dr. Terrell Yarbrough, Superintendent
Josh Aurand, Chief School Business Official
From: Jacob Hubert, Director of Secondary Education
RE: Purchase of Professional Development through the Teach Better Organization
Date: December 17, 2021

The high school uses a traditional grading system that sometimes averages student's initial practice of a concept with their understanding of that concept at the end of a unit. The student may actually show a greater mastery of the concept at the end of a unit, but the initial performance brings down the average of the grade. While effort and progress has been made to fairly reflect student understanding, the high school would like to receive further professional development on what it means to assess students on growth versus mastery of the learning standards.

Teach Better is an organization who has worked with over 150 districts on the concept of assessing students on growth versus mastery. This request was recently brought to my attention, and with a cost of \$3,500, it will need to be approved through business services and the board. The board does not meet until Jan 18, 2022 and the SIP day for which we are requesting the professional development is Jan 14, 2022 .

I would like to formally request the approval to accept the \$3,500 contract with the Teach Better Organization on the topic of Grading for Growth vs Mastery to be provided on January 14, 2022. The funding source for this professional development will be Title II.

