



8605 NORTH SECOND STREET, MACHESNEY PARK, ILLINOIS 61115
815.654.4500 • 815.654.4600 (Fax)

Harlem Consolidated Schools

DISTRICT 122

Memo To: Board of Education
Julie Morris, Ed.D.
Superintendent

From: Heidi Lange, Director Student Support Services
Dr. Barb Browning, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum/Instruction
Paul Ciszek, Director of Technology

Date: June 12, 2013

Re: IEP Software Purchase – Power IEP

Recommendation:

For the past two years, The District been using IEPoint, an electronic tool for writing IEPs. This program was never intended for the large number of users we have in the Harlem School District, which has created numerous technical difficulties for both staff and administration.

A committee of teachers, staff who provide related services, and administrators began meeting in early April to develop a list of the important features we would need in an effective IEP program. Paul Ciszek took this list and researched IEP programs that would be compatible with our network and other system processes. Paul and the committee members narrowed the list of program vendors to four, based on our needs for special education and technology. Those four vendors made presentations to the committee, as well as hands-on demonstrations. The committee's number one choice was PowerIEP. We then spoke with representatives from three surrounding school districts who currently use PowerIEP.

PowerIEP is a web-based software program that is accessible to use from any device with internet access. It is managed through Brecht's Database Solutions Inc., which offers a secure data center to all information entered within the system. This system currently serves over 150 school districts and cooperatives. After all our research, we are recommending the purchase of PowerIEP as the District's IEP writing software program. It is our goal to begin using this program for the 2013-2014 school year.

Brecht's Database Solutions Inc. will be providing professional development this summer to our staff and administrators. The cost of teacher attendance at this training and the purchase of the PowerIEP program will be paid for by the IDEA grant