



Executive Summary Finance Committee Meeting

DATE: May 22, 2025

TOPIC: District Purchasing Update(s)

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Recommended for:

- ☐ Action
- ☒ Discussion
- ☒ Information

Purpose/Background:

This document provides the Finance Committee with an update of ongoing District renewals and/or purchases that will not require Board Approval based on criteria adopted in May 2023.

Items for Finance Committee Review:

- **BrainPop for 2025-2026**
 - Brainpop subscriptions provide students and teachers with video explanations and activities for students in Kindergarten through 8th Grade and supports various languages.
 - Teachers use BrainPOP to introduce new topics or reinforce topics dealing with math, reading and writing, science, social studies, health, and arts and technology.
 - BrainPop ELL was added to the initial subscription during the 24-25 school year as an extra resource for ELL Students at a prorated cost of \$911.75
 - Calculating the additional ELL resource and inflationary increase, the District is looking at only 5.3% increase in price for this total package.
 - The District has also negotiated 2 on demand learning professional development options for BrainPop and Brainpop ELL program at no cost.
 - \$11,772 - The District paid \$9,639 for the same services for the 24-25 school year.
- **Finalsite for 2025-2026**
 - Finalsite, formerly Blackboard, has been used in the District to host the school District and School websites and mobile app services.

- Finalsight, currently hosts over 5,000 school Districts in the states and around the globe.
- The District is currently in Year 2 of a 5-year contract with Finalsight.
- \$2,629 - The District paid \$2,449 for the services during the 24-25 school year.
- **PowerSchool SIS for 2025-2026**
 - PowerSchool Inc. is the provider of the District's Student Information System (SIS).
 - Powerschool houses data that can be accessed by District staff, students, and parents.
 - Powerschool's reporting engine makes it possible for the District to upload information into ISBE's Student Information System, print report cards, and keep track of day-to-day operations of all students.
 - \$9,456.54 - The District paid \$8,756.06 for the services during the 24-25 school year.
- **PowerSchool Enrollment for 2025-2026**
 - PowerSchool Enrollment Registration is an integrated system that the District uses for online student registration.
 - Data entered by parents/guardians before the school year begins, is stored by the system, approved before the school year begins, then uploaded directly into the District's PowerSchool Student Information System (SIS).
 - \$13,485.61 - The District paid \$12,486.68 for the services during the 24-25 school year.
- **Schoology for 2025-2026**
 - Since 2015 Lincolnwood School District 74 has used the Schoology Learning Management System, a product of PowerSchool, to manage the communication and workflow between teachers, classes, and the students at Lincoln Hall.
 - The LMS links student curriculum packages as well as Google Drive files and the Powerschool information system.
 - \$5,666.06 - The District paid \$5,246.35 for the services during the 24-25 school year.
- **SeeSaw for 2025-2026**
 - Seesaw is a Learning Management System (LMS) that allows teachers at Todd Hall to create and share online activities and assignments with students and communicate with families.
 - Students use creative tools to write, draw, take pictures, and record videos in order to capture their learning and receive feedback.
 - Teachers and families at Todd Hall use the service to communicate with families during e-learning sessions.
 - \$3,440 - The District paid \$3,276 for the services during the 24-25 school year.
- **Newsela for 2025-2026**
 - Newsela is a website that provides a range of articles on current events or relevant topics in English/language arts, science, math, and social studies.

- Resources are presented in five different reading levels; which students can select to best meet their needs. Vocabulary is adjusted to allow the information to be more accessible to students.
- This product has been in use for many years at both Rutledge and Lincoln Hall.
- \$8,000 - The District paid \$7,721.12 for the services during the 24-25 school year.

- **Alternative Learning Opportunities Program (ALOP)**

- ALOP is a program sponsored by the North Cook Intermediate Service Center (NCISC). This year, a cohort of approximately 25-30 students at Rutledge Hall and Lincoln Hall were served by an advocate who supported their attendance, academic, and social-emotional needs. This program provided an additional layer of support beyond the services of social workers and administrators. It became a beneficial support experience for students with the aforementioned needs.
- The District paid approximately \$35,000 for the services provided this year. However; next year, and in future years, the program is supported by the State of Illinois. Therefore, there is no cost to the District to renew the program for the 2025-2026 school year.
- The District signed a renewal of the Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) that had previously been approved.

- **PLTW for 2025-2026**

- Project Lead the Way (PLTW) is the organization that creates and maintains the curriculum for the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) programs implemented across the District.
- The District subscribes to two programs; PLTW Gateway at the middle school, and PLTW Launch at Todd and Rutledge Hall.
- The District is assessed an annual subscription fee for each building participating.
- \$2,850 - The District paid \$2,850 for the services during the 24-25 school year.