

# Elementary Assessment and Intervention Software RFP

Board Discussion

*May 5, 2025*

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# Elementary Assessment and Intervention Software Search

- District Improvement Plan charged us with the task of studying options for an elementary reading and math diagnostic assessment instrument and instructional intervention system considering effectiveness, efficiency, and affordability.
  - Istation has recently been bought by Amira and are working to integrate those two products into one which would require training for all and made it an appropriate time to consider other instruments.
  - Funding has come from a combination of both 199 General Funds and IMTA funds allocated each biennium.
  - With no increase to the basic allotment and gaps in funding for other expired instructional materials we are working with a smaller biennium budget with which to purchase materials.
  - Similar to an instructional materials adoption, we have continued to honor this process for the assessment instrument as was done in 2014-15 with Istation.
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A blue-tinted photograph of three young students (two boys and one girl) sitting at a desk, looking down at a worksheet or book. One boy is pointing at something on the page. The image is partially obscured by a dark blue vertical bar on the right side of the slide.

# Benefits of Assessment and Intervention Software

- Diagnostic Assessments
  - Indicators of success for on grade level reading and math
  - District and campus goals, HB3 reporting
  - Early identification for intervention
  - Guidance for teachers on best response to student needs
- Instructional Intervention System
  - Personalized pathway for independent practice in identified skills
  - Computer based support for teacher interventions

Early Reading Assessments have been best practice for many years, this has included:

- TPRI/Tejas Lee
- DRA Kits
- PreK Circle and TX-KEA
- Istation
  - Provided cost free by the state during Accelerated Reading & Math Intervention years - ARI/AMI, when that ceased around 2015, we took over payments

What is now mandated:

- TEA Early Reading Indicator K-2 Report to PEIMS - 2012
- Dyslexia Screener K-1- 2017
- HB3 - Board Goals - 2019

Barriers we have experienced:

- Instruments such as Istation have risen significantly in costs over 10 years
- Time intensive for teachers when instrument requires 1:1
- Substitute requests in the past to provide additional support for assessment
- Subjectivity of assessments versus neutral objective instrument



# Assessment and Intervention Software Priorities

- Diagnostic and Instructional Resource Content, Clarity, and Organization
- Research on Validity and Reliability of Assessments and Effectiveness of Instructional Response
- Student Supports and Accessibility
- Teacher Supports and Accessibility
- Equity in English and Spanish in both Reading & Math
- Meets Criteria for Required Dyslexia Screener
- Affordability
- Norm and Criterion Referenced Options

# RFP Timeline

District Improvement Plan charged us with the task of creating an RFP for an elementary reading and math diagnostic assessment screener and instructional intervention system.

- February:
    - RFP launched
  - March:
    - Questions from vendors were answered
    - RFP closed
    - Seven companies responded
    - Elementary Curriculum and Programs team evaluated responses and invited six to demo
  - April:
    - Committee of 15 district and campus representatives observed vendor demos on April 11
    - Procurement team worked to get best and final offers from three vendors
  - May:
    - School Board Discussion Item
    - School Board Action Item
  - June-July:
    - Order materials for use in August 2025 if approved and funding is available
    - Professional learning for teachers
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A background image showing a group of children, primarily of Asian descent, sitting at a table and looking at a tablet or document. The image is overlaid with a dark blue semi-transparent filter.

# Assessment and Intervention Software Review Committees

Committee Included Representatives From:

- Campus Principals
- Chief of Schools
- Language Arts/Social Studies Administrators
- Math Administrator
- Dual Language Administrator
- Spanish Language Arts Coordinator
- Director of Special Education
- Specialized Support Administrators
- District Data and Assessment Analyst
- Instructional Technology Project Coordinator
- Senior Buyer Procurement
- Executive Director of Curriculum and Programs

A background image showing three young children, two boys and one girl, sitting at a table and looking down at a document or book. They appear to be in a classroom or library setting. The image is overlaid with a dark blue semi-transparent filter.

## Next Steps

- Compare the top three recommendations of our committee with the cost of the materials to determine priorities and selections
- Procurement team is actively negotiating best pricing for an instrument that meets our needs
- Bring forth final recommendations May 12 as a School Board Action Item

# Thank you!

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