

MEMO

To: JPS Board of Education

From: Krista Osterberg, Director, Jenison Innovation Academy (JIA)

Date: 5/29/2026

Subject: Approval Request – Chromebook Purchase for JIA Grades 8–12

SUMMARY

Jenison Innovation Academy (JIA) seeks approval to purchase 180 Chromebook devices, totaling an estimated **\$73,053**, to support students in grades 8–12. These devices are essential to ensure consistent, equitable access to JIA's fully online and hybrid learning environment.

Similar to the District's established Chromebook replacement cycle, this purchase supports sustainability, instructional continuity, and access to high-quality digital learning experiences for our secondary school students.

RATIONALE FOR JIA-SPECIFIC NEEDS

While JIA aligns with district technology practices, our instructional model requires enhanced device functionality. JIA students engage daily in:

- Live synchronous instruction (Zoom-based learning sessions)
- Interactive digital coursework within Blackboard and embedded tools
- Real-time collaboration, annotation, and communication
- Multimedia creation and submission of assignments

To fully access and engage in these experiences, Chromebooks must have an adequate screen size. The screen size and quality are key features that enable:

- **Active Participation in Live Sessions:** Students annotate, write, draw, and respond in real time during instruction
- **Seamless Interaction with Digital Content:** Many JIA courses are optimized for navigation for simulations, labs, and interactive activities
- **Improved Accessibility:** Features support diverse learning needs, including students who benefit from flexible viewing modes
- **Enhanced Engagement and Communication:** Students can more naturally collaborate, demonstrate thinking, and engage with peers and instructors

Without these capabilities, students experience barriers to participation that directly impact engagement, understanding, and overall success in a digital environment.

EVALUATION

Consistent with district practice, JIA worked with REMC pre-negotiated pricing and approved vendors to ensure cost efficiency and quality assurance. JIA reached out to different vendors (Bluum, Trafera, CDWG, etc). Devices were selected based on:

- Performance reliability for daily synchronous and asynchronous use
 - Compatibility with district systems and platforms
 - Warranty, repairability, and lifecycle value
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PURCHASE PROPOSAL

JIA proposes the purchase of:

- **180 Lenovo 14” Chromebooks**
- **Total cost: \$73,053**

These devices will be assigned to JIA 8-12 school students to ensure:

- Equitable access to required instructional tools
- Consistency across the program
- Long-term sustainability within a replacement cycle

Attached Quotes:

- [Bluum Quote](#)
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CONCLUSION

This investment directly supports JIA's mission to provide innovative, high-quality digital and hybrid learning experiences. Ensuring students have the appropriate technology is foundational to their ability to fully engage, communicate, and succeed in a digital learning environment.

Approval of this purchase will allow JIA to continue delivering rigorous, interactive, and accessible instruction aligned with district expectations and student needs.