

**Denton Independent School District**  
**Chromebook Purchase**  
January 26, 2021

**SUMMARY:**

This item requests approval of the purchase from Dell Marketing LP in the amount of \$456,400.00 for the purchase of 1,400 Chromebooks.

**BOARD GOAL:**

Growth & Management – Demonstrate effective and efficient management of district resources

**PREVIOUS BOARD ACTION:**

As reported to the Board at the August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2020, regular Board meeting, the District's participation in the Bulk Order phase of Operation Connectivity resulted in the purchase of 12,000 Dell Chromebooks which are currently at our provisioning vendor and should be rolled out at the beginning of the Spring 2021 semester. The second of the two Operation Connectivity phases is the Prior Purchase Reimbursement Program and follows different rules governing eligible purchases than the first phase did. The Bulk Order phase was handled through an ILA with Region 4 and the matching, reimbursable costs were removed prior to invoicing. The Reimbursement phase entails paying the full cost up front and receiving a reimbursement on eligible expenses with TEA covering 75% of the expense.

During the December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Regular Board meeting, the Board voted to approve the purchase of 8,000 Chromebooks as part of Operation Connectivity Prior Purchase Reimbursement Program (PPRP) to account for machines that were already or soon to be end of life. This purchase was made with a minimum reimbursement of 75%.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

TEA has issued 5 separate errata for the PPRP since December 1, 2020. Each errata has slightly changed deadlines and restrictions. As those errata were issued, the Technology Division has been able to reconcile the District's Chromebook inventory more closely with the constraints and needs of the newly established 1:1 initiative. As a result, the Technology Division has determined that 1,400 additional Chromebooks are needed to round out the program and that these devices and the timeline for their purchase meet the latest errata criteria for PPRP.

**SIGNIFICANT ISSUES:**

The timeline for phase two of Operation Connectivity provided a brief window of opportunity in which the District could make any additional device purchases. As this has been TEA standard operating procedure throughout the Operation Connectivity, the Divisions involved in the purchases have been moving as quickly as possible with the available information. As a result, not every possible need has been accounted for in each submission. This final purchase should get us where we need to be to be successful with 1:1. The purchase order was issued on January 11, 2021 to meet both the TEA timeline for submission as well as secure the available devices that were ready for immediate delivery.

**FISCAL IMPLICATIONS:**

The total cost of purchase is \$456,400.00. The potential reimbursement from TEA will be \$342,300 leaving the District's final cost as \$114,100 to be borne from the General Fund – Fund Balance.

**BENEFIT OF ACTION:**

Through this phase the District has an opportunity to fill in the gaps that remain in the 1:1 Chromebook deployment that we have undertaken to enable ConnectedLearning during the COVID-19 Pandemic. Additionally, these 1,400 Chromebooks will replace some of the older devices that we have in play that are no longer supported by the manufacturer and need to be removed from the District network for Cybersecurity reasons.

**SUPERINTENDENT’S RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the purchase from Dell Marketing LP in the amount of \$456,400.00 for the purchase of 1,400 Chromebooks be approved.

**STAFF PERSONS RESPONSIBLE:**

Robert Pierce, Chief Technology Officer  
Scott Niven, Chief Financial Officer  
Vicki Garcia, Executive Director of Financial Operations  
Dianna Casper, Director of Purchasing

**ATTACHMENTS:**

None

**APPROVAL:**

Signature of Staff Member Proposing Recommendation: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Divisional Assistant Superintendent: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Superintendent: \_\_\_\_\_