

MEETING DATE: January 19, 2021

AGENDA ITEM: Student Instructional Device Deployment

PRESENTER: Brooks Moore, Director of Technology

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

- The Texas Education Agency (TEA) was awarded targeted eLearning funding of \$200 million in CARES Act Coronavirus Relief Funds (CRF) to enable remote learning during the COVID-19 pandemic for Texas students that lack connectivity or devices. Subsequent to this award, TEA launched Operation Connectivity, a statewide initiative to deliver internet connectivity and device solutions for school districts, families, and students in Texas.
- The Board of Trustees approved the purchase of 2,850 Chromebooks through Project Connectivity at the August 24, 2020 board meeting.
- Due to extremely high demand, the devices were backordered and not delivered until the week of December 14, 2020.
- The District has provided parents the opportunity to request a device for their student if needed.
- By using existing student device inventory, the District has been able to accommodate most requests for a device.
- In an effort to deploy devices to all students, the District Technology Department will be contacting parents to schedule the distribution of Chromebooks from the Operation Connectivity order. Several distribution times will be offered to these parents.
- The District Technology Department will collect all student devices at the end of the 2020-2021 school year. At that time, the Technology Department will assess, inventory, and plan for redistribution for the 2021-2022 school year.
- District Administration will work on a long-term plan to redistribute the devices to students and will consider options that would allow the devices to stay in the classrooms year-round for our youngest students.

FISCAL INFORMATION:

None

ATTACHMENTS:

None

ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATION:

None – Informational Report