



To: Harlem School District Board of Education
From: Jason Blume, Assistant Superintendent of Communications & Community Relations
CC: Josh Aurand, Assistant Superintendent of Business & Operations
Date: May 13, 2026
Re: Thomson Reuters CLEAR and LPR Software Contract Renewal

Background

The District has utilized Thomson Reuters CLEAR to support residency verification and investigative processes. This tool has strengthened our ability to confirm student residency, identify potential fraud, and ensure compliance with District policy.

Since implementation, CLEAR has allowed us to more efficiently flag discrepancies and require follow-up documentation when needed. As noted in prior reporting, hundreds of residency concerns have been reviewed annually, resulting in both confirmed compliance and removal of ineligible enrollments.

CLEAR has also supported broader investigative work, including tools such as License Plate Recognition (LPR), which improve efficiency and reduce manual investigation time. Prior to registration for 2025-2026 school year, there were 464 students flagged for residency concerns. Of the 464 students, 55 students did not attend for the 2025-2026 school year.

Current Need

Residency verification remains a critical function as the District continues to:

- Streamline registration processes for families
- Reduce annual documentation requirements
- Investigate residency concerns efficiently and discreetly
- Protect District resources and opportunities for in-district students

The need for a verification tool remains unchanged. This year, we have flagged 407 families in CLEAR with a last known address that does not match what is currently listed in Skyward.





Renewal Options Considered

The District was provided two renewal structures:

- Option 1: Maintain current user structure at an increased rate. A single year renewal would cost \$1,714.90 per month which is an increase from current amount of \$1,559.00 per month. A three year-renewal monthly cost would be: \$1,636.95, \$1,718.80, and \$1,804.74 per month.
- Option 2: Reduce to two users with a lower, fixed rate. A single year renewal would cost \$1,405.00 per month. A three year-renewal monthly cost would be: \$1,405.00, \$1,475.25, and \$1,549.01.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board approve Option 2: a three-year renewal with two users.

This option:

- Reduces annual cost while maintaining core functionality
- Aligns system access with current operational needs
- Locks in pricing for the duration of the agreement
- Includes a non-appropriation (non-availability of funds) clause, allowing termination with proper notice if funding is not available

Cost Summary (Recommended Option)

- Year 1: \$1,405.00 per month
- Year 2: \$1,475.25 per month
- Year 3: \$1,549.01 per month

This represents a cost savings compared to maintaining the current structure, while continuing to provide the District with a tool that has demonstrated measurable impact.

Conclusion



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CLEAR continues to provide value by improving efficiency, strengthening compliance, and helping ensure that District resources are reserved for eligible students.

Moving to a reduced-user model allows us to maintain these benefits at a lower cost while securing predictable pricing over a three-year period.

I recommend approval of the three-year renewal under Option 2.



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