



Sharon Williams, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

To: RIMSD 41 Board of Education
From: Dr. Sharon Williams
Cabinet Champion: Troy Bevans, IT Director
Date: October 22nd, 2024
Re: Bitdefender GravityZone Security Software Renewal

To provide an additional security layer of defense, as well as meeting the requirements of the district's cybersecurity insurance plan, an Endpoint-Detect-Respond security software service is required. Endpoint detection and response refers to a category of tools used to detect and investigate threats on endpoints (laptops, virtual machines, desktops, etc.). EDR tools typically provide detection, investigation, threat hunting, and response capabilities.

The tool selected is Bitdefender GravityZone, from Connectwise, a trusted and current vendor of the district for the past 7 years. GravityZone is a multilayered security solution that provides enhanced attack protection by leveraging an extensive set of systems hardening, threat prevention, and detection technologies, as well as machine learning and behavioral analysis.

By ensuring all endpoints are monitored by this solution, an additional layer of security protection is provided. Therefore, it is recommended that the RIMSD #41 Board of Education approve the renewal of the GravityZone Endpoint-Detect-Respond (EDR) security software up to the amount of \$40,560.00 from Connectwise, 28819 Network Place Chicago, IL 60673. This amount will be funded by the Technology Department budget and valid from July 1st, 2024 through June 30th, 2025.

Investment Period: 12 months
Total Investment: \$40,560.00
Funding Source: Technology Department Budget