

LIVONIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Sheila A. Alles, Director

Academic Services Department

June 11, 2015

To: Dr. Randy Liepa

From: Sheila Alles, Director of Academic Services
Tim Klan, Informational Technology Administrator

Subject: Recommendation to Purchase Replacement of Internet Content Filtering System

The Information Technology Department is requesting the recommendation to purchase an Internet content filtering system replacement be placed on the agenda for the June 15, 2015, Board of Education's Committee Meeting. The Livonia Public Schools currently provides Internet content filtering to all computing devices connected within the district. The main purpose of the content filter is to block inappropriate content, such as pornography and to mitigate threats, such as viruses/malware. The district is required to filter the Internet in order to receive federal e-rate funds.

For the past 8 years, we have been using a content filtering product called 8e6 which was purchased through the Wayne RESA consortium. Most Wayne County school districts are also using this product.

The 8e6 filter has served us well, but no longer meets the emerging needs of many districts, such as filtering devices when they go home with staff or students and providing a more effective way of filtering mobile devices. Our current county-wide contract is expiring on August 1, 2015. As a result, Wayne RESA and the State of Michigan worked together to write a bid for a new filtering solution. Two solutions were accepted, iBoss and LightSpeed.

After a thorough evaluation of both solutions, a majority of the Wayne RESA school districts, including Livonia Public Schools, agreed that the iBoss solution with a three-year contract was the best county-wide solution.

In order to move forward, we will need to purchase new filtering hardware and software licenses this summer. Attached is a quote from iBoss for the filtering hardware which totals \$17,894. This is a one-time cost. In addition, we are recommending a three year hardware replacement warranty with a cost of \$1,995.

The filtering software licenses is based on a per student fee of approximately \$.47. Based on a student enrollment number of 14,901, the three year cost for the licenses is \$20,861.40.

The filtering hardware, three year hardware replacement warranty and three year software subscription with shipping charges included totals \$40,910.30. This pricing reflects a 6% discount if the purchase order is placed by June 30, 2015.

This purchase would be made using the Information Technology software account.

Thank you for your attention to this request.

Attachment