

**CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF AN INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH
REGION 4 EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER FOR TECHNOLOGY PURCHASES
THROUGH THE “OPERATION CONNECTIVITY” PROGRAM SPONSORED BY TEA**

Action Item:

It has become widely apparent across the state that almost all districts face many issues and difficulties as we attempt to provide remote instruction to thousands and thousands of students due to the lack of appropriate internet service for those households. Those struggles have been communicated to TEA and others in Austin. Through a collaborative effort involving Governor Abbott, the Texas Legislature, and TEA, districts have the opportunity to purchase technology with a guarantee of matching funds from TEA in order to assist districts with those acquisitions. We are still awaiting on the actual agreement with Region 4 ESC, which will be handling these purchases and the accounting that goes along with them. Since Region 4 is not our designated service center, JISD needs to approve an interlocal agreement to allow for their involvement, just as other districts across the state will need to do. (I expect to have that agreement by the time of the meeting.) A corresponding budget amendment will also need to be made to set aside the approximate funds necessary to purchase technology equipment to assist the district in its efforts to provide top quality, remote instruction. Jay Patrick, Technology Director, plans to be available at the board meeting to help explain this item and answer questions, as needed.

Recommendation:

I recommend the Board approve this interlocal agreement with Region 4 ESC, as presented.