



UNITED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT AGENDA ACTION ITEM

TOPIC: Approval of 8th Grade Social Studies Exploros Subscription Purchase

SUBMITTED BY: David R. Canales, Executive Director of Middle School Instruction

OF: Curriculum and Instruction Department

APPROVED FOR TRANSMITTAL TO SCHOOL BOARD: _____

DATE ASSIGNED FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION: August 16, 2017

Recommendation:

Approval of Exploros as an instructional resource to assist students with the Social Studies TEKS and to improve the STAAR scores.

Rationale:

UISD middle schools will be utilizing EXPLOROS as a supporting curriculum resource in 8th grade social studies for this upcoming school year. Exploros is a 1:1 device classroom platform that supports the social learning environment of the traditional classroom. Students engage in productive social networking, exploring and interacting in a classroom environment under teacher guidance. Exploros provides teachers with real-time data on student engagement and mastery. UISD participated in a pilot last year (October-January) and long term data gathered showed that implementation with fidelity contributed to an increase in STAAR data for some campuses. The district will be purchasing a subscription for all middle schools which will allow for data collection and analysis of program usage at the campus and district level.

Budgetary Information:

\$7,000–20,000 from Middle School Instruction

Board Policy Reference and Compliance:

EHAC (LEGAL) Courses in the foundation and enrichment curriculum in grades 6–12 must be provided in a manner that allows all grade promotion and high school graduation requirements to be met in a timely manner. The school district may provide instruction in a variety of arrangements and settings, including mixed-age programs designed to permit flexible learning arrangements for developmentally appropriate instruction for all student populations to support student attainment of course and grade level standards. *19 TAC 74.3(a)(1)*

Exploros

8th Grade Social Studies

What is Exploros?

- **No cost to the district for the curriculum**
- **Free OER (Open Educational Resources) curriculum resource**
- **District and Campus Analytics will have a cost.**
- Exploros is a 1:1 device classroom platform that supports the social learning environment of the traditional classroom.
- Students engage in productive social networking, exploring and interacting in a classroom environment under teacher guidance using TEKS-aligned learning experiences.
- Learning experiences in the digital curriculum are developed using the 5E model and have multiple opportunities for students to be engaged.
- Exploros provides teachers with real-time data on student engagement and mastery.

UISD EXPLOROS PILOT

- Pilot duration occurred from October 2016-January 2017
- After analyzing student data and obtaining teacher feedback we have decided to utilize the Exploros curriculum resources into the 8th grade Social Studies Scope & Sequence for the 2017-2018 school year.
- The district would like to analyze student data and curriculum usage on Exploros and will therefore be purchasing a subscription.

UISD Pilot Results

- 3 campuses that frequently used Exploros showed an average of 11% points in first district assessment since pilot began (December 2016)
 - **Campus #1-WMS** (CBA #1 15% improved to 26%) @ 70%
 - 40% to 48% @ 56% passing
 - One teacher showed 20% increase from CBA#1 to #2
- **Campus #2-LOMS** (CBA #1 26% improved to 37%) @ 70%
- 62% to 68% @ 56% passing
- One teacher showed 20% increase from CBA #1 to #2

UISD Pilot Results

- **Campus #1-WMS** (CBA #2 26% improved to 40% on CBA #3) @ 70%
 - 48% to 68% @ 56% passing
 - One teacher showed 31% increase from CBA#2 to #3 @56%
 - One teacher showed 17% increase and another 19% increase at 70%
 - **Campus showed 12% points increase on STAAR 2017 (from 54% to 66%)**
- **Campus #2-LOMS** (CBA #2 37% improved to 40% on CBA #3) @ 70%
 - 62% to 70% @ 56% passing
 - One teacher showed 7% increase from CBA #2 to #3 @56%
 - One teacher showed 11% increase at 70%
 - **Campus showed 8% points increase on STAAR 2017 (from 56% to 64%)**
- Teachers who had greater student responses through use of Exploros saw greater individual increase in scores
 - % completion of lessons and implementation delivery methods varied by campus and by teacher