



Executive Summary Finance Committee Meeting

DATE: January 20, 2022

TOPIC: Varsity Tutors for Schools, LLC

PREPARED BY: David Russo

Recommended for:

- Action
- Discussion
- Information

Purpose/Background:

The Administrative team continues to evaluate student academic performance, and based upon that analysis, find ways to support student learning. Recently, each school implemented drop-in math tutoring services either before or after school for students to get extra help or work on developing skills in growth areas. In addition to the on-campus tutoring services, the District would like to use Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) III funds to pursue a partnership with Varsity Tutors, LLC. The vendor provides online, on-demand tutoring services in a wide variety of subject areas and grade levels.

If approved, the partnership would start with a trial at Lincoln Hall for 50 students who would be invited to take advantage of a “bank” of 12 tutoring hours that the District would fund. The District would identify students and set up an introduction communication. From there, families will create accounts and schedule tutoring sessions. A dashboard will allow the District to see who is using the services and teachers can get information about the types of activities students are completing to address gap areas through another portal.

The Administrative team will evaluate the efficacy of the program to determine if expansion to other schools is warranted.

District Legal Counsel reviewed the Terms and authored an Amendment addressing several issues including automatic renewal, jurisdiction over litigation, and the Student Online Personal Protection Act (SOPPA). The vendor agreed to the terms covered in the Amendment.

Fiscal Impact:

\$36,000

The District will use ESSER III grant dollars to fund a "bank" of 12 hours for each student recommended. Twenty-percent of the funds associated with the ESSER III grant must be set aside to address issues of learning loss related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Recommendation:

It is the Administrative recommendation that the Finance Committee concurs to recommend to the Board of Education to approve this contract from Varsity Tutors, LLC for online tutoring services in the amount of \$36,000 from December 1, 2021 - May 31, 2022.