

HAYS CONSOLIDATED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Date: September 22, 2025

Agenda Item: J.2b

Board Goal: Student Achievement

Subject: Consideration and possible approval of the purchase of College and Career Readiness Platform -
SchoolLinks

Administrator Responsible/Position: Marivel Sedillo, Deputy Superintendent / Chief Academic Officer
Maritza Gonzalez, Dir of Guidance, Counseling & College and Career Readiness

A. Purpose of Agenda Item:

Action needed Information only Receive input

B. Authority for This Action:

Local Policy: Law or Rule N/A
CH Purchasing & Acquisition

C. Goal or Need Addressed: Provide course planning, linked college applications, career exploration, and community service tracking.

D. Summary:

- Previous board action relating to this item:** In March 22, 2022, the Board approved the purchase of SchoolLinks, which currently serves as the district's career and college readiness platform.
- Future action anticipated:** Contract renewal Spring 2028
- Background information:** SchoolLinks has served as our career and college readiness platform since March 2022. It has proven to enhance the student's experience through personalized exploration to assist them with post-secondary planning. The platform has also aided our counselor's ability to efficiently track a student's progress toward their post-secondary planning.

E. Comments Received:

Cabinet DLT FBOC Teacher Org. Reps. Other: C&I

F. Administrative Recommendation: The administration recommends approval of the purchase of the Career and College Readiness Platform --SchoolLinks.

Advantages and benefits of this proposal: This is a comprehensive platform that allows students to explore colleges and careers, take skill assessments, and align courses with goals.

Expected results in terms of student benefit/achievement: Students will be better informed about college and career choices by having access to a comprehensive platform 24-7.

Effect of this action on other parts of the system: Access to SchoolLinks connects counselors and students to discuss progress toward secondary planning.

Consequences of not approving this recommendation: Not having access to this platform will make it more cumbersome to track student progress toward their college and career goals.

G. Fiscal Impact and Cost: 25/26: \$112,802.28

26/27: \$114,945.72

27/28: \$116,948.46

Budget Bond Grant/Special Funds: Other

Budget Amendment Needed

Prior Year Spending for this item/service: \$121,823.21

Bid/Contract Information: TIPS Cooperative #210101

Length of Contract: This cooperative contract is in option renewal four (4) with zero options to renew. This is set to expire May 31, 2026

Reasons for rejecting alternatives: N/A

Future/Ongoing: This is a three-year contract with the option to renew at the end of three years

H. Monitoring and Reporting Time Line:

Person responsible for evaluating this decision or action: Marivel Sedillo

Evaluation method and timeline: Ongoing monitoring and utilization

Next report to the Board: Annual report to the Board on career and college readiness

I. Suggested Motion:

I move that the Hays CISD Board of Trustees agree to renew the contract for college and career readiness platform SchoolLinks for a three-year total amount not to exceed \$344,696.46, as presented.