Memo

To: Superintendent Gina Butters, Weber School District Board of Education

From: Dr. Jennifer Boyer-Thurgood, Technical Services Director

CC: Dr. Robert Petersen, Dax Teuscher

Date: October 23, 2023

Re: Purchase Request

Keeping students focused on learning activities while using their Chromebooks in class has become a major need for Weber School District teachers. This need emerged as one of the top priorities during the superintendency listening sessions earlier this year. In response, the Technical Services Department and the Digital Teaching and Learning Department began researching software solutions and a request for proposals (RFP) was opened through purchasing.

During a joint review done by Tech Services, Digital Teaching and Learning, and Purchasing the six products that responded to the RFP were reviewed. Of these products, the most comprehensive and most cost-effective product, Blocksi, was identified. Purchasing Blocksi will provide the solution teachers identified. It will also give parents limited control of student Chromebooks during non-school hours. Additionally, two current WSD products, Bark (approximately $16,000 per year) and Net Support (approximately $7,000 per year) will no longer be needed. Improved functionality to replace these two products will be available through Blocksi.

The review committee is requesting board approval for the following:

Blocksi – $112,000 per year

This cost includes several sub-products: Blocksi Teacher Dashboard, Blocksi Parent Dashboard, Blocksi Delegate (administrative analytics), and Blocksi Student Safety with AI and 24/7/365 Review. The cost of this product follows regular license inflation rates at 3.5% per year.

Thank you for your consideration of this purchase. As always I appreciate your continued support of technology in the district. If I can provide you with further clarification or answers to questions, please contact me at 801-476-7979.

Thank you.

Dr. Jennifer Boyer-Thurgood
Director of Technology