

**HAYS CONSOLIDATED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Date: November 18, 2024

Agenda Item: O.3

Board Goal: Student Achievement

Subject: Consideration and possible approval of the purchase of Unique Learning Systems Curriculum

Administrator Responsible/Position: **Marivel Sedillo, Deputy Superintendent / Chief Academic Officer**
Derek McDaniel, Director of Curriculum & Instruction
Michelle Velasquez, Executive Officer of Special Education

A. Purpose of Agenda Item:

Action needed Information only Receive input

B. Authority for This Action:

Local Policy Law or Rule N/A

C. Goal or Need Addressed:

The purpose of this agenda item is to renew the purchase of Unique Learning Systems curriculum and additional products for the 24-25 school year.

D. Summary:

Previous board action relating to this item – N/A

Future action anticipated – Annual Renewal

Background information – Unique Learning Systems (ULS) curriculum is a one-of-a-kind comprehensive curriculum aligned to the Texas TEKS designed specifically to help students with special learning needs master the state's extended standards. ULS meets the requirements set forth by the students' IEPs served in our specialized classrooms who are preparing to take STAAR Alt 2. In addition, a product of this curriculum includes SymbolStix, a product utilized by FL and ECSE teachers along with speech pathologists to create visuals necessary for instruction and routines in the classroom.

ULS has been used by our teachers previously; however, this year, we have included additional teacher licenses to accommodate growth and so that all FL teachers have access to the curriculum. The increase of students served in specialized classrooms and the addition of teachers who have access to this curriculum has resulted in an increased cost for this purchase. We have also included the purchase of SymbolStix in replacement of Boardmaker to streamline resources and to reduce cost. The addition of teacher licenses and SymbolStix has exceeded the traditional cost that we have experienced in the past.

E. Comments Received:

Cabinet DLT FBOC Teacher Org. Reps. Other: Curriculum & Instruction

F. Administrative Recommendation:

Administration recommends the approval of ULS and related products for the 24-25 school year.

Advantages/benefits of this proposal – ULS and SymbolStix provides the modified curriculum and visuals needed for students served in specialized classrooms to make academic and functional growth based on IEP goals and grade level standards.

Expected results in terms of student benefit/achievement: The modified curriculum aligned to the Texas TEKS provides the prerequisite requirements for instruction to increase learner outcomes.

Effect of this action on other parts of the system: Students served in specialized classroom have access to curriculum aligned to the Texas TEKS at their grade level.

Consequences of not approving this recommendation: Students served in specialized classrooms will not have full access to curriculum to meet their learning needs and prepare for growth as measured by STAAR Alt 2, thus not meeting the state and federal requirements for FAPE.

G. Fiscal Impact and Cost: Total Amount: \$62,223.15

Budget – General Fund Bond Grant/Special Funds Other –

Budget Amendment Needed

Prior Year Spending: \$43,358.60

Bid/Contract Information:

Future/Ongoing – ULS will need to be renewed on a yearly basis. Cost may fluctuate based on enrollment.

H. Monitoring and Reporting Timeline:

Person responsible for evaluating this decision or action - Marivel Sedillo, Derek McDaniel, Michelle Velasquez

Evaluation method and timeline – The implementation of ULS is monitored in classrooms through walk-throughs, T-TESS, and monthly check ins with special education administrators.

Next report to the board – October 2025

I. Suggested Motion:

I move that the Hays CISD Board of Trustees approve the purchase of Unique Learning Systems Curriculum for an amount not to exceed \$62,223.15, as presented.