



Executive Summary Finance Committee Meeting

DATE: November 18, 2021

TOPIC: Explore Learning Gizmos Renewal

PREPARED BY: David Russo

Recommended for:

- Action
- Discussion
- Information

Purpose/Background:

Gizmos are interactive science virtual labs and simulations for grades 3-12. The Lincoln Hall Science Department first identified Gizmos last year as a tool to replicate the science lab experiences for remote learners. After using the subscription throughout the second semester and into this school year, the resources in Gizmos have proven valuable to supplement the *iScience* program. For example, students can complete virtual experiments that may too dangerous to conduct in the live laboratory setting. There are also virtual tools that can assist students in developing knowledge.

District Legal Counsel had reviewed the Terms and Conditions and Privacy Policy last year and authored an Amendment, which the vendor agreed to at the time. Counsel indicated it was sufficient for the vendor to acknowledge agreement to those terms in this year's renewal, which they did in the Proposal.

Counsel also offered an opinion related to the National Data Privacy Agreement (IL-NDPA) necessitated by the Student Online Personal Protection Act (SOPPA). Counsel said that vendors create an original NDPA document covering all the pertinent data and terms for their product, and then the first district signs the original document. Then, other districts that use the same product

would be able to sign an Exhibit E from that original NDPA agreement without having to create and revise a new standalone NDPA document. Counsel reviewed the IL-NDPA from Johnsburg CUSD #12 provided by the vendor, found the document to be acceptable, and indicated the District could sign off on Exhibit E, if the renewal was approved.

Fiscal Impact:

\$2,947.50 for an 18-month subscription. The District paid \$1,965 for a 12-month subscription. The vendor only sells the product in a minimum of a one-year subscription. Since the District signed on in December 2020, we would like to renew for 18-months through the rest of this year and all of next. At that time, the District will reevaluate to determine if the subscription warrants renewal.

Recommendation:

It is the Administrative recommendation that the Finance Committee concurs to recommend to the Board of Education to accept this Proposal from Explore Learning for Gizmos in the amount of \$2,947.50 from January 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023.