

# **Livonia Public Schools**

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## ***Business Services Office***

Date: May 21, 2013

To: Randy Liepa, PhD., Superintendent

From: Lisa Abbey, Director of Business Services

Re: Update on State Computer Purchase

We would like to update the Board of Education on the State Computer Purchase at the Tuesday, May 28, 2013 Finance Committee meeting. See the attached memo from Carol Tinney. Please include this item on the agenda and contact me if you have any questions. Thank you.

LA/kp

c: Board of Education

# **LIVONIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

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## **Department of Technology**

**Date:** May 21, 2013

**To:** Lisa Abbey, Director of Business Services

**From:** Carol Tinney, Administrator of Technology

**Subject:** Update on State Computer Purchase

The Michigan Department of Education is implementing online federal and state assessments beginning with the 2014-15 school year. In preparation for this transition, the Michigan Legislature appropriated funding under the FY2013 School Aid Act, Section 22i (Technology Readiness Infrastructure Grant), to be allocated to districts for technology readiness. Livonia Public Schools received \$10 per student, for a total of \$156,200.

One of the requirements of the funding is that purchases be made from a list of allowable items. These include network services, computers/devices, in-building wireless connectivity, wiring, or online/digital assessments. With the available funding and technology readiness needs of the district, the Information Technology Department recommends the funding be used to purchase desktop computers to be used for instruction and online assessments.

The rationale for this recommendation is based on the online assessment pilots conducted by Churchill, Franklin, Garfield, Grant, Hoover, and Riley during this school year. These pilots provided a better idea of potential issues with administering large scale online assessments and the number and minimum specifications of computers required to administer the tests. We will use the Section 22i funding to purchase desktop computers to replace the oldest computers currently used for online assessments, since the current computers do not meet the minimum standards established for the final online assessments.

The steps needed to complete the purchase are as follows:

- We have submitted to the consortium the forecast of the number of devices we wish to purchase.
- The State of Michigan will award the desktop bid on approximately June 19, 2013.
- The purchase recommendation will be brought to the Board of Education at an early July meeting.
- The district will issue a purchase order by July 31, 2013.
- All funds must be expended by June 30, 2014.

I would like to review this with the Board of Education at its next committee meeting to address any questions so we are prepared to move this project forward. Please feel free to contact me if you have questions.

c: Sheila Alles