No._____

UNITED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
INFORMATIONAL ITEM

TOPIC: Presentation by Sylvan Learning regarding Services for UISD

SUBMITTED BY Rick Rodriguez, Juan Molina and Pat Campos   OF: Board Members

APPROVED FOR TRANSMITTAL TO SCHOOL BOARD: _____

DATE ASSIGNED FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION: October 13, 2009

Ace it! Tutoring Fast Facts

Program Objectives:
Achieve academic improvement
- Curriculum is targeted to essential skills in reading and math

Be conveniently located
- Delivered at the school or community location

Provide an enjoyable and inspiring learning environment
- Students enjoy attending and learning

Instructional Model:
In-person, small class instruction to meet individual student needs
- Begins with an assessment to determine specific learning needs
- Students are placed in small classes (no more than 8 per class) based on their learning needs and ability levels
- Teachers provide instruction on learning objectives, motivate students and reward them for their achievement and effort
- All Ace it! Tutoring programs are aligned to state and district standards to help students learn skills that are on standardized tests

Curriculum Research:
Curriculum is based on research, best practices and common sense
- The Reading curriculum is based on the National Reading Panel (NRP) research and best practices, and designed to be systematic, explicit and intensive
- The Math curriculum content and process standards are based on those outlined by the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM)

Ace it! Tutoring Math Program:
- Core skills at each level
- Two-day in-depth study of each skill
- Problem solving part of lessons for each skill
- Additional lessons in problem solving
- Daily basic fact practice
- Concrete work moves to abstract
- Students communicate orally and in writing
- Goal is accuracy and efficiency
- Daily practice for 5-7 minutes
  - Computational strategies
  - Basic fact games

- Progress tracked
- Manipulatives
  - Used for concept development of skills
  - Tool for basic fact practice

Ace it! Reading Program:
- Word Analysis
  - Alphabetic Principle
  - Phonemic Awareness
  - Phonics
  - Word Study
- Fluency
- Comprehension
- Vocabulary
- Every lesson addresses the 4 areas of reading instruction
- Core reading skills at each level
- In-depth three-day sequence of lessons
- Guided practice moves to applied practice
- Opportunities within lessons for differentiation

Assessment:
- Group Reading Assessment and Diagnostic Evaluation (GRADE)
- Group Math Assessment and Diagnostic Evaluation (GMADE)
- Pre and post assessment given
- Assessments guide placement

How We Work With Schools, LEA's and Parents:
- Proactive partnership
- Mutually set goals
- Continuous communication
- Individual and group progress reports
  - Contributes to success of student
  - Starts at the beginning of the program
  - Continues through the program
  - Culminates with final report

Instructional Staff:
- Bachelor's degree required
- Teaching certification highly preferred
- Intensive program training, ongoing coaching and observation