

# Approval of UniServity Collaborative Technology Learning Agreement

September 9, 2008

## SUMMARY:

- This item requests approval of an expenditure of \$59,000 for a technology collaborative learning platform for Denton HS, Ryan HS, and Guyer HS. It allows students, teachers, and parents opportunities to extend their learning experience through collaborative learning communities.

## BOARD GOAL: I. Vision...In pursuit of excellence, the district will:

- *Develop a culture where learning is our first priority*
- *Remain committed to providing equitable and outstanding opportunities for every student on every campus*

## II. Teaching & Learning ...In pursuit of excellence, the district will:

- *Stay abreast of and incorporate best practices into teaching, learning, and leadership*

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

- Uniservity, based in the United Kingdom, provides the learning platform called "cooperative Learning communities (cLc)"
- Provides professional collaboration among our teachers with other teachers around the world
- The cLc technology has been reviewed since October of 2007 by Denton ISD staff over the course of the 2007-08 school year
- Among those reviewing cLc benefits: Asst Supt for C & I, Exec. Director of Technology, Deputy Supt., Director of Instructional Technology, Director of Secondary Curriculum, High School Principals, High School Associate Principals, and the high school Academic Leadership Team members.
- cLc is currently in use in 14 countries, and by over 1 million students
- contract is for one year, renewable at anniversary

## SIGNIFICANT ISSUES:

- the uses of the learning spaces can be shared worldwide yet maintain a high level of safety
- Uniservity support personnel are located in Dallas metroplex area

## FISCAL IMPLICATIONS:

- For fiscal year 2008-09, cost will be \$59,000
- Cost includes hub set up fee & management, professional learning, and per pupil subscription
- Costs for following years, if renewed, will include only subscription and professional learning fees
- Costs will be borne jointly by Curriculum & Instruction Division, the three high schools, Title II funds, and technology department

## BENEFIT OF ACTION:

- Passage will allow students the opportunity to create safe and secure learning spaces and electronic learning portfolios that are interactive and may be shared with teachers and other students worldwide.
- Will provide teachers with extra assistance in collaborative lesson planning and delivery with other teachers from other classrooms
- Provides internationalism component for students in IB
- Allows opportunities for teachers and students to electronically connect with content "experts"
- Teachers have access to learning modules that incorporate best practices

## PROCEDURAL AND REPORTING IMPLICATIONS:

- None

**SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the Board approve the expenditure of \$59000 to Uniservity for providing a technology learning platform and staff development for our three high schools.**

## STAFF PERSONS RESPONSIBLE:

- Dr. Mike Mattingly, Asst. Supt of Curriculum, Instruction, & Staff Development

## APPROVAL:

Signature of Staff Member Proposing Recommendation: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Divisional Assistant Superintendent: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Superintendent: \_\_\_\_\_