



UNITED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT AGENDA ACTION ITEM

TOPIC: Approval to Purchase Grammarly an On-line Web-based Evaluation Writing Tool

SUBMITTED BY: David R. Canales, Executive Director of Middle School Education

OF: Curriculum and Instruction Department

APPROVED FOR TRANSMITTAL TO SCHOOL BOARD: _____

DATE ASSIGNED FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION: November 19, 2014

Recommendation:

To purchase Grammarly, a web-based automated evaluation writing program, for all middle, high and all non-traditional schools.

Rationale:

Improve Writing in all grade levels

The on-line web based program provides a comprehensive automated proofreading and virtual grammar tool to assist students in their writing abilities. Grammarly can find more than 250 types of grammatical errors and checks for plagiarism against a database of over 8 billion web pages.

Budgetary Information:

- A. Yearly costs for all secondary campuses is \$34,500.00
- B. Paid by Federal Programs (Title I under #211)

Board Policy Reference and Compliance:

EFA (Local)



Grammarly

On-Line Web-based Evaluation Writing Tool

Department of Middle School Education
David R. Canales, Executive Director
November 10, 2014

Description

- Grammarly is an on-line automated web based evaluation writing tool that helps students to perfect their writing skills. Grammarly's patent-pending grammar checking technology reviews and improves text, correcting grammar, spelling, word choice and style mistakes with unmatched accuracy. Aside checking for the 250 advance grammar rules, it also reviews documents for plagiarism

Format

- Checks for over 250 points of grammar
- Improve any text
- Context Optimized Synonyms
- Adaptive Spell Checker
- Plagiarism Detection and Citations
- Can find errors that Microsoft® Word Can't
- Works on any browser
- Improves Writing Skills

Target Audience

- All Middle
- All High Schools
- All Non-Traditional Schools
 - STEP
 - RF Schools

Costs

- Grammarly → \$34,000.00 Per Year
(Secondary → Middle & High Schools Only)
- Covered by Federal Programs under 211

- Alternate comparison → Turnitin
\$51,402.52 Per Year for
5 High Schools ONLY

(Just Secondary)

Timelines

- **March 2014-May 2014** Trial period provided to our secondary English teachers.
- **November 06, 2014** Presentation to all School Principals
- **November 06, 2014** Presentation to all key Teachers

Feedback Period

- Teachers Stated
 - “...I liked the program, especially the fact that the student would obtain immediate input, or results.”
 - I already used Grammarly and I am pleased with the program. Students have found it very helpful since they find out WHY they are making a grammatical mistakes or plagiarizing and they are guided on HOW to correct their mistakes.”
 - “I specially like the Plagiarism component of the website. I showed it to my students and most were amazed by the amount of details that are provided when submitting their own writing assignments. I would definitely enjoy using the website.”
 - “...I think it will be an awesome resource for revising, editing, and remediation. Hope it's something we cant asked advantage of next year.
 - “I think the program was easy to navigate and benefit ALL students. It was detailed and useful.”
 - Grammarly graded essays and provided immediate feedback with color coded recommendations as well as examples of how to properly write sentences.
 - With the use of this program along with Achieve 3000 these students were able to master both components of the state test Reading and writing (ELA).

Questions

