



# Livonia Public Schools

*District Services*

Date: April 12, 2023

To: Andrea Oquist, Superintendent

From: Phillip Francis, Assistant Superintendent for District Services

Re: Purchase of Chromebooks

I would like to discuss the purchase of up to 1,500 Chromebooks from Presidio at the next Committee of the Whole meeting on Monday, April 24, 2023. These  $\approx$ 1,500 Chromebooks will be combined with  $\approx$ 4,000 Chromebooks originally purchased via the Emergency Connectivity Fund (ECF) grant. The total of 5,500 Chromebooks will replace the devices purchased during 2017-18, which Google will no longer be supporting.

For background, you may recall that in April 2022, the Board approved the purchase of 8,000 Chromebooks using the ECF grant, which was a competitive grant created by the federal government, run by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), specifically to provide these types of needed electronic devices for remote learning during the COVID-19 emergency period. At that time, the district purchased 8,000 Chromebook devices with the express purpose of giving them to students who stated the need for them. The ECF grant specifically required the funds to be used exclusively for these devices and required the grant dollars only be used for devices given to students stating the need for them. The determination to purchase 8,000 devices was based on how many LPS loaned out when the COVID-19 emergency was first declared in spring 2020. In 2022, the district wanted to ensure that every student who stated the need for a Chromebook was able to receive one. Thus, the purchase of 8,000 devices using the ECF grant money. Additionally, the district knew we would soon be replacing the 2017-18 Chromebooks being used in the schools. With that in mind, our goal was to distribute all 8,000 devices to students with a need, but we also planned to use any unclaimed ECF grant machines towards the replacement purchase. This grant program expires June 30, 2023.

Based on the number of devices given to students up to this point, the district has  $\approx$ 4,800 remaining. The last day for distribution will be Friday, April 28, 2023. Due to the grant's restrictions on how those devices can be utilized, the district will

transfer federal ESSER grant dollars back to the federal ECF grant for the cost of the remaining devices so we can deploy them for classroom use, while also adhering to the tenets of the grant guidelines.

I am recommending this purchase from Presidio in the amount of \$502,950.00 to come from federal ESSER grant funds. Student mobile devices is an approved line item in ESSER grant budget. This purchase, combined with the remaining ECF devices will replace the Chromebooks purchased with Bond funds in 2017-2018 that will no longer be supported by Google.

Please let me know if there are any questions. Thank you.

Attachment

c: Board of Education

PF/ko