

# HAYS CONSOLIDATED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Date: April 22, 2024

Agenda Item: J.2a

Board Goal: Student Achievement

Subject: Consideration and possible approval of the the purchase of Online Tier I Instructional Resources for Elementary Math – STEMscopes dba Accelerate Learning, Inc.

Administrator Responsible/Position: Marivel Sedillo, Deputy Superintendent / Chief Academic Officer

**A. Purpose of Agenda Item:**

☒ Action needed

☐ Information only

☐ Receive input

**B. Authority for This Action:**

☒ Local Policy

☐ Law or Rule

☐ N/A

**C. Goal or Need Addressed:**

The purpose of this agenda item is to approve the purchase of the online math program STEMscopes for the 2024-2025 school year for math at all elementary campuses.

**D. Summary:**

☒ **Previous board action relating to this item** – Board approved purchase for the 2023-2024 school year, including the purchase of the STEMscopes Foundations kits for the teacher, which was a one time purchase. This purchase will be a renewal for the online access only. Board approved McGraw Hill workbook and kit purchase in the summer of 2023

☒ **Future action anticipated** – There is an annual cost for the online subscriptions. The physical foundations kits are a one-time cost.

☒ **Background information** – Hays CISD has utilized the STEMscopes math program in all elementary school campuses since the 2023-24 school year. STEMscopes has continually improved their resources, professional developments, website, activities, assessments and much more to provide rigorous TEKS aligned mathematics curriculum. STEMscopes is a research based online program that provides students with hands-on activities and formative assessments. The online resource is user friendly, allowing teachers and students to use the platform frequently. As STEMscopes is a digital resource, they are able to frequently update and improve their product.

Due to TEA's shift for online testing only, we have adapted to using more online resources by utilizing STEMscopes, allowing students more opportunities to be successful. The elementary school day-by-day math lesson plans include various activities and assessments specifically from STEMscopes to enrich daily lessons, allowing teachers to only use district curriculum and not having to purchase/use resources that haven't been vetted or checked for alignment.

Due to the State's continued math curriculum gap years, we are purchasing STEMscopes Math for K-5 teachers as the core, Tier 1 resource.

**E. Scope of Options Reviewed:**

**Quote/Contract Info:** TIPS Contract #230807 Academic and Educational Goods and Services

**Reasons for rejecting alternatives:** Go Math was adopted in 2014 and expired after the 2021-2022 school year. Publishers have not updated their math resources since the 2014 adoption because math TEKS are expected to be revised in the coming school years. There is currently a lack of quality, aligned resources for Math. The Texas Resource Review found that STEMscopes math is 100% aligned to K-5 Math TEKS – a higher rating than any other resource.

F. **Comments Received:**  
☒ Cabinet    ☐ DLT    ☐ FBOC    ☐ Teacher Org. Reps.    ☒ Other: Curriculum & Instruction

G. **Administrative Recommendation:**

The administration recommends approval of the purchase of instructional materials, as presented.

☒ **Advantages/benefits of this proposal:**

- Designed and developed in Texas to align specifically to the Texas state standards
- Follows the 5E lesson plan model
- Provides opportunities for engagement, hands-on exploration, modeling, interventions, differentiation, and extensions beyond the TEKS
- Provides formative assessment opportunities for just-in-time intervention
- Online platform for students to support blended learning models
- As a digital resource, STEMscopes is able to continuously adapt and improve the product

☒ **Expected results in terms of student benefit/achievement:**

- Aligned and engaging learning experiences for students
- Increased opportunities for hands-on explorations and modeling
- Differentiated activities and instructional models for accessing content for all students
- Increased student achievement on local and state assessments

☐ **Possible problems or disadvantages of this proposal:**

☐ **Effect of this action on other parts of the system:**

☒ **Consequences for not approving recommendation:**

- Loss of aligned and differentiated instructional materials for elementary mathematics

H. **Fiscal Impact and Cost: Total Amount: \$90,842.50**

☐ Budget    ☐ Bond    ☐ Grant/Special Funds    ☒ Other: Instructional Materials Allotment

**Prior Year Spending** – \$143,209.60

**Future/Ongoing** – Ongoing annual cost for the online subscription only and teacher kits for growth.

I. **Monitoring and Reporting Time Line:**

**Person responsible for evaluating this decision or action** – Marivel Sedillo, Derek McDaniel

**Evaluation method and time line** – Usage will be reviewed monthly. The Executive Officer of Curriculum and Instruction, along with the Elementary Coordinator for Mathematics, will be able to evaluate the data using CBAs and usage reports of STEMscopes per school and teacher after each assessment.

**Next report to the board** –

J. **Suggested Motion:**

I move that the Hays CISD Board of Trustees approve the purchase of online Tier I instructional resources for elementary math from STEMscopes, dba Accelerate Learning, Inc., for an amount not to exceed \$90,842.50, as presented