



Executive Summary Finance Committee Meeting

DATE: May 23, 2024

TOPIC: 2024-2025 Encyclopedia Britannica Renewal

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Recommended for:

- ☒ Action
- ☒ Discussion
- ☒ Information

Purpose/Background:

Encyclopedia Britannica is a curricular tool that is available online to all students in the District. The resources found through this service meet the unique needs of every learner as students can toggle between reading levels on each article, have articles read aloud, and use Merriam-Webster's dictionary to hear words pronounced and read their definitions. Each article can also be translated into over 80 languages, which is a great asset to our growing ELL population. Articles pulled from Britannica School are all fact-checked from credible sources.

Newly added features include the ability for teachers to easily integrate these resources into the Google classroom LMS or save them in a format to use with their classes. Students also have the ability to review the information and save that back into their own personal Google Drive folders and create a library of resources for reference. Other new features include the ability to automatically cite their information in many different writing styles.

Based upon usage statistics, this product continues to be one of the most widely used across the district being used widely across the District.

Though the price on this product increased substantially, the District worked with the vendor to secure a lower price point for the 2024-2025 school year.

Fiscal Impact:

\$1000.00 for the use of Britannica School Subscription for all students and teachers in the school District. The District paid Encyclopedia Britannica \$715.50 in 2023-2024.

Recommendation:

The Finance Committee concurs with the Administration's recommendation to the Board of Education to approve this agreement from Encyclopedia Britannica for the Britannica School Subscription in the amount of \$1,000.00 from July 1, 2024 till June 30, 2025.