

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF HARFORD COUNTY

INFORMATIONAL REPORT

DECISION ON CONTRACT AWARD FOR  
EXTENDED DAY TUTORING SERVICES

FEBRUARY 24, 2014

Background Information:

On behalf of the Office of Title I, the Purchasing Department is requesting a decision on a contract expansion to Educate Online, LLC, of Baltimore, Maryland. This service for Extended Day Tutoring was originally bid in September of 2012 via RFP #13-JLJ-003, and is now being expanded. Educate Online has provided service to 5 schools/100 students since the program service was initiated. The service consists of a mastery learning model of instruction that has a 30 year history of practice and research. Each lesson is a designated “type” that supports a specific phase of the “teaching cycle” that facilitates the mastery learning and scaffolding methodology – pre-test, guided practice, independent practice, problem solving/applied practice, and mastery testing utilized for student success.

Discussion:

Educate Online is leader in educational consulting services providing HCPS students from 5 Title I schools with online, at-home tutoring services in the areas of reading and math with a mini-laptop provided from Educate Online. This laptop comes with a “limited” access card that allows students to access tutoring from where ever they may be located. These students get valuable tutoring from a certified teacher that is selected based on specific needs of student, e.g. content area, grade level, special education needs, ESOL needs. This program is being expanded to include academic services for homeless students and students from Title I schools that can’t participate in existing extended day programs. This will increase the number of students serviced by approximately 80 students. The original contract cost estimate for this service was \$50,000. The introduction of the homeless students will increase the annual estimated cost for this program to approximately \$130,000. Expenses for this service are paid from Title I grant funds.

Superintendent’s Recommendation:

The Interim Superintendent of Schools recommends that the Board of Education approve the contract expansion for the estimated amount of \$80,000, for an estimated total contract amount of \$130,000 with Educate Online.