

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF HARFORD COUNTY

INFORMATIONAL REPORT

**DECISION ON CONTRACT AWARD FOR ENGLISH RESOURCES
FOR ELEMENTARY READING**

AUGUST 12, 2019

Background Information:

The Purchasing Department, on behalf of the Office of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment requests a decision by the Board of Education for a contract award to Heinemann Publishers, P.O. Box 6926, Portsmouth, NH 03802, in the amount of \$180,986.31, for elementary classroom library and instructional books. Copyright materials are not a competitively bid commodity and pricing is established by the publisher.

Discussion:

The reading program, *Storytown* was purchased in 2006 for all elementary schools in Harford County. Since this program was outdated, not aligned to current standards, and could no longer be replenished, a materials review process was started. During the 18-19 school year, an Elementary Reading Ad-Hoc Committee convened to review and recommend a new program for Elementary Reading in Grades K-5. *The Units of Study in Reading* program was selected by the committee and approved June 2019 by the General Curriculum Committee.

The *Units of Study in Reading* is aligned to Maryland College and Career Ready Standards and incorporates opportunities for reading aloud, shared reading, guided reading and independent reading of text. For the 19-20 school year, eight elementary schools have been identified to pilot the new program. In order to support the implementation of the pilot program, the *Units of Study in Reading* recommends instructional text and classroom library selections.

Funding for this purchase are out of the Office of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment's Operating Budget/Textbook Capital Budget.

Superintendent's Recommendation:

The Superintendent of Schools recommends that the Board of Education accept the recommendation made by the Purchasing Department and award the contract to Heinemann Publishers in the amount of \$180,986.31.