

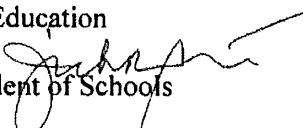
Office of the Superintendent of Schools  
MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
Rockville, Maryland

June 11, 2019

APPROVED BY BOARD

MEMORANDUM

To: Members of the Board of Education

From: Jack R. Smith, Superintendent of Schools 

Subject: Contract Approval for RFQ No. 1155.4, Online Digital Content Products for the MDK12 Digital Library Consortium

This is an award to prequalify online digital content products for the MDK12 Digital Library Consortium (MDK12 Consortium), a statewide purchasing consortium of 24 local school systems designed to give teachers, students, and parents/guardians cost-effective access to a collection of appropriate online digital content products to support school library media programs and to provide enhanced opportunities to support effective teaching and learning for kindergarten through Grade 12 students at a savings to each local school system. Online digital content products include online subscription databases and electronic library resources. As a member of the MDK12 Consortium, Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) acts as the soliciting agent on behalf of the other 23 local school systems to prequalify online digital content products for purchase by MDK12 Consortium members.

The MDK12 Consortium's purchasing authority under state law is set forth in Sections 7-9A-01 to 7-9A-05 of the Education Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland. Under state law, the purposes of the MDK12 Consortium are to:

- Provide equitable access to digital content for all Maryland K-12 students and teachers;
- Improve school library media programs with advanced technologies;
- Create fiscal efficiencies in the purchase of digital content through enhanced cooperation among school libraries; and
- Support effective teaching and learning by connecting digital content with the Maryland Content Standards; Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) initiatives; and workforce development.

Members of the MDK12 Consortium began working together in 2002 to purchase online digital content products. Since then, the MDK12 Consortium has leveraged the local school systems' collective resources to negotiate pricing with providers of online digital content products to serve approximately 850,000 public school students and more than 42,000 nonpublic school students enrolled in kindergarten through Grade 12. The benefits of purchasing through the MDK12 Consortium include

greater equity of access, cost savings to local school systems, shared professional development, and effective partnerships among school librarians.

To facilitate the continued purchase of online digital content products through the MDK12 Consortium, MCPS released Request for Qualification No. 1155.4, Online Digital Content Products for the MDK12 Digital Library Consortium (RFQ No. 1155.4) on February 25, 2019, to solicit high-quality online subscription databases and electronic library resources. MCPS staff organized and conducted a thorough product selection process with representatives from members of the MDK12 Consortium.

Based on the outcome of the product selection process, the superintendent of schools recommends that the Board of Education approve certain prequalified online digital content products for purchase by local school systems participating in the MDK12 Consortium through June 30, 2022. The pre-qualification award will be for an initial term of three years with up to three one-year renewal options.

In addition, regarding MCPS purchases of prequalified online digital content products, funds have been budgeted for MCPS offices and schools to purchase prequalified online digital content products for a total amount not to exceed \$1,208,826 for Fiscal Year 2020.

WHEREAS, As a member of the MDK12 Digital Library Consortium, Montgomery County Public Schools acts as the soliciting agent on behalf of the other 23 local school systems to prequalify online digital content products for purchase by MDK12 Digital Library Consortium members; and

WHEREAS, To facilitate the continued purchase of online digital content products through the MDK12 Digital Library Consortium, Montgomery County Public Schools released Request for Qualification No. 1155.4, Online Digital Content Products for the MDK12 Digital Library Consortium on February 25, 2019, to solicit high-quality online subscription databases and electronic library resources; and

WHEREAS, Montgomery County Public Schools staff organized and conducted a thorough product selection process with representatives from members of the MDK12 Digital Library Consortium; and

WHEREAS, Based on the outcome of the product selection process, the superintendent of schools recommends that the Board of Education approve the following prequalified online digital content products for purchase by local school systems participating in the MDK12 Digital Library Consortium through June 30, 2022:

1155.4 Online Digital Content Products for the MDK12 Digital Library Consortium  
Responsible Office: Office of Curriculum and Instructional Programs

Pre-Qualified Products

Vendor Name, Location

Products

BrainPop, New York, New York

BrainPop Platform

Bunce LLC, Speonk, New York

Bunce Web Platform

Coughlan Companies, Inc., North Mankato, Minnesota	Capstone Interactive Library; PebbleGo
Cavendish Square Publishing LLC, New York, New York	Cavendish Square Digital
Cengage Learning Inc., Farmington Hills, Michigan	Gale Testing and Education Reference Center; Gale Platform
EBSCO Industries, Inc., Birmingham, Alabama	EBSCO Platform; Learning Express
Gareth Stevens Publishing LLLP, New York, New York	Report Builder Database
Infobase Holdings Inc., New York, New York	Databases; Streaming Video; World Almanac for Kids; World Almanac Online; World Geography and Culture Online; Writer's Reference Center
Kids Discover LLC, New York, New York	Kids Discover Online
Lincoln Library Press Inc., Cleveland, Ohio	FactCite
MT Library Services Inc., Plain City, Ohio	Junior Library Guild
NBC Universal LLC, New York, New York	NBC Learn Library
Nearpod Inc., Dania Beach, Florida	Digital Platform
Newsela Inc., New York, New York	Newsela Pro; Power Words
Nicholas M. Glass, Madison, Wisconsin	TeachingBooks.net
One More Story Inc., Brooklyn, New York	Read Aloud Picture Book Database
ProQuest LP, Ann Arbor, Michigan	CultureGrams; SIRS Discover; Knowledge Source
Scholastic Library Publishing Inc, Danbury, Connecticut	BookFlix; FreedomFlix; Go!; ScienceFlix; True Flix; Watch & Learn Library
Smartbook Media Inc., New York, New York	Smartbook Media - LightBox

The Chancellor Masters and Scholars of the University of Oxford, Cary, North Carolina	Oxford African American Studies Center; Oxford Art Online; Oxford Music Online; Oxford Press Encyclopedias; The New Oxford Shakespeare; The Oxford English Dictionary
The Rosen Publishing Group Inc., New York, New York	EPointPlus; Interactive eBooks Spotlight On; Rosen Databases
Tumbleweed Press Inc., Toronto, Ontario	TeenBook Cloud Collection; TumbleBooks Library & Math
Weigl Publishers Inc., New York, New York	EyeDiscover; World Languages
World Book Inc., Chicago, Illinois	Encyclopedia Databases

and

WHEREAS, The pre-qualification award will be for an initial term of three years with up to three one-year renewal options; and

WHEREAS, Funds have been budgeted for Montgomery County Public Schools offices and schools to purchase prequalified online digital content products for a total amount not to exceed \$1,208,826 for Fiscal Year 2020; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the following online digital content products are prequalified for purchase by each local school system participating in the MDK12 Digital Library Consortium in its discretion and in accordance with the specifications of Request for Qualification No. 1155.44:

1155.4 Online Digital Content Products for the MDK12 Digital Library Consortium  
Responsible Office: Office of Curriculum and Instructional Programs

Pre-Qualified Products

<u>Vendor Name, Location</u>	<u>Products</u>
BrainPop, New York, New York	BrainPop Platform
Bunce LLC, Speonk, New York	Bunce Web Platform
Coughlan Companies, Inc., North Mankato, Minnesota	Capstone Interactive Library; PebbleGo
Cavendish Square Publishing LLC, New York, New York	Cavendish Square Digital

Cengage Learning Inc., Farmington Hills, Michigan	Gale Testing and Education Reference Center; Gale Platform
EBSCO Industries, Inc., Birmingham, Alabama	EBSCO Platform; Learning Express
Gareth Stevens Publishing LLLP, New York, New York	Report Builder Database
Infobase Holdings Inc., New York, New York	Databases; Streaming Video; World Almanac for Kids; World Almanac Online; World Geography and Culture Online; Writer's Reference Center
Kids Discover LLC, New York, New York	Kids Discover Online
Lincoln Library Press Inc., Cleveland, Ohio	FactCite
MT Library Services Inc., Plain City, Ohio	Junior Library Guild
NBC Universal LLC, New York, New York	NBC Learn Library
Nearpod Inc., Dania Beach, Florida	Digital Platform
Newsela Inc., New York, New York	Newsela Pro; Power Words
Nicholas M. Glass, Madison, Wisconsin	TeachingBooks.net
One More Story Inc., Brooklyn, New York	Read Aloud Picture Book Database
ProQuest LP, Ann Arbor, Michigan	CultureGrams; SIRS Discover; Knowledge Source
Scholastic Library Publishing Inc, Danbury, Connecticut	BookFlix; FreedomFlix; Go!; ScienceFlix; True Flix; Watch & Learn Library
Smartbook Media Inc., New York, New York	Smartbook Media - LightBox

The Chancellor Masters and Scholars of the  
University of Oxford,  
Cary, North Carolina

Oxford African American Studies  
Center; Oxford Art Online;  
Oxford Music Online; Oxford  
Press Encyclopedias; The New  
Oxford Shakespeare; The Oxford  
English Dictionary

The Rosen Publishing Group Inc.,  
New York, New York

EPointPlus; Interactive eBooks  
Spotlight On; Rosen Databases

Tumbleweed Press Inc., Toronto, Ontario

TeenBook Cloud Collection;  
TumbleBooks Library & Math

Weigl Publishers Inc., New York, New York

EyeDiscover; World Languages

World Book Inc., Chicago, Illinois

Encyclopedia Databases

and be it further

Resolved, That the superintendent of schools be authorized to negotiate and execute agreements for the purchase of prequalified online digital content products for Montgomery County Public Schools for a total amount not to exceed \$1,208,826 for Fiscal Year 2020; and be it further

Resolved, That the superintendent of schools be authorized to execute all other documents and grant any approvals necessary for the purchase of prequalified online digital content products for Montgomery County Public Schools.

JRS:AMZ:ESD