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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vendor Name, Location</th>
<th>Products</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BrainPop, New York, New York</td>
<td>BrainPop Platform</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buncee LLC, Speonk, New York</td>
<td>Buncee Web Platform</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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
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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vendor Name, Location</th>
<th>Products</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BrainPop, New York, New York</td>
<td>BrainPop Platform</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buncee LLC, Speonk, New York</td>
<td>Buncee Web Platform</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coughlan Companies, Inc., North Mankato, Minnesota</td>
<td>Capstone Interactive Library; PebbleGo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cavendish Square Publishing LLC, New York, New York</td>
<td>Cavendish Square Digital</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Cengage Learning Inc., Farmington Hills, Michigan

EBSCO Industries, Inc., Birmingham, Alabama

Gareth Stevens Publishing LLLP, New York, New York

Infobase Holdings Inc., New York, New York

Kids Discover LLC, New York, New York

Lincoln Library Press Inc., Cleveland, Ohio

MT Library Services Inc., Plain City, Ohio

NBC Universal LLC, New York, New York

Nearpod Inc., Dania Beach, Florida

Newsela Inc., New York, New York

Nicholas M. Glass, Madison, Wisconsin

One More Story Inc., Brooklyn, New York

ProQuest LP, Ann Arbor, Michigan

Scholastic Library Publishing Inc., Danbury, Connecticut

Smartbook Media Inc., New York, New York

Gale Testing and Education Reference Center; Gale Platform

EBSCO Platform; Learning Express

Report Builder Database

Databases; Streaming Video; World Almanac for Kids; World Almanac Online; World Geography and Culture Online; Writer's Reference Center

Kids Discover Online

FactCite

Junior Library Guild

NBC Learn Library

Digital Platform

Newsela Pro; Power Words

TeachingBooks.net

Read Aloud Picture Book Database

CultureGrams; SIRS Discover; Knowledge Source

BookFlix; FreedomFlix; Go!; ScienceFlix; True Flix; Watch & Learn Library

Smartbook Media - LightBox
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