



Memorandum

To: Elizabeth Brenner, Superintendent and CEO of Compass Charter Schools and The Compass Charter Schools Board of Directors

From: Janae Smith, Director of Online Learning

Date: February 23, 2024

RE: Proposal for 2024-25 Accelerate Education Online Curriculum

Item Requested: 1-year contract for the 2024-25 Accelerate Education Online Curriculum

Purpose: This contract provides access to the Accelerate Education (AE) learning management system (LMS) that includes the AE online curriculum. This online curriculum is utilized by the Online K-12 scholars for their primary, standards-based curriculum and for Options High School scholars to complete up to 3 online courses to earn credits towards graduation. Further, Options scholars in middle school and high school who enroll in the AVID course elective will utilize the AE AVID course to participate in this elective.

Background Information: Through a thorough curriculum audit conducted during the 2023-24 school year that utilized the Nation Standards for Quality Online Learning (NSQOL) that focused on the quality online curriculum standards, the Director of Online Learning and the Online Learning team has concluded that AE continues to provide a common-core aligned, standards-based online curriculum that meets the needs of scholars at Compass Charters. Accelerate Education also reviews the courses and updates many courses each year to ensure that content continues to meet grade level standards, the course is user-friendly and includes accessibility functionality, and is relevant to scholar learning. Through updates within the system, Online teachers can continue to personalize learning through various customization tools (features that even include customization for a single scholar) for alignment with Compass' mission and vision. Further, to meet our Local Control and Accountability goal, LCAP 1.1b, AE provides scholar access to core curriculum aligned to Common-Core standards. Research supports that familiarity with an online learning system supports scholar success, so continuing to use this system will be a benefit to our scholars (Darby & Lang, 2019).

In addition to the LMS, AE also provides physical workbooks that help enrich the curriculum and provide additional hands-on learning opportunities for scholars in grades K-5. The Online K-5 team collected and analyzed data to determine the efficacy of these workbooks and the impact on scholar academic achievement. The team determined that there was a continued need to provide the English/Language Arts and math workbooks through AE for this additional learning for scholars in grades K-5.



Along with the LMS, AE provides on-demand and live, synchronous professional learning through their year 2+ Implementation/PD package that includes teachers and administrators training and support to further personalize learning for scholars. This professional learning also ensures that the teachers and administrators are current on the recommended best practices from AE to implement the online curriculum to the fullest extent. Further, there is one on one administrative support where the Director of Online Learning works with the AE expert who provides support with course creation and assignments.

Cost: The cost of Accelerate Education for the 2024-25 scholar year is \$167,964.75.

Recommendation: I recommend to continue to use and implement the AE LMS for the Online Learning Department. The continued use and implementation will meet the Online learning needs of Compass scholars.

Please see the Accelerate Education Amended Contract with cost information.

References:

Darby, F. and Lang, J. (2019). Small teaching online: Applying learning science in online classes. Wiley & Sons.