New Student Information System (SIS) Project Update

To:　　　　　　Finance, Budget and Enrolment Committee

Date:　　　　　3 November, 2020

Report No.:　　11-20-3981

Strategic Directions

- Allocate Human and Financial Resources Strategically to Support Student Needs

Recommendation

It is recommended that the new Student Information System (SIS) update be received for information.

Context

Student Information System (SIS) Background

Following the amalgamation of the legacy school boards creating the Toronto District School Board in 1998, the Board was standardized on Trillium as the Student Information System (SIS) for the entire district.　The Student Information System (SIS) is critical to the operation of the TDSB. It is used for the collection, recording, validation and reporting of student registration, achievement and attendance data. The SIS supports the Ministry reporting process (ONSIS) that drives the operational funding TDSB receives from the Ministry.

The original vendor providing this system was SRB Education Solutions. In August 2016, SRB (and the Trillium product) was bought out by PowerSchool LLC, a well-established provider of SIS solutions in North America and around the world. PowerSchool has continued to maintain the Trillium platform for TDSB and other Ontario school boards ensuring compliance with Ministry of Education reporting requirements, but they have not done any product enhancement work. In July 2019 PowerSchool informed Ontario school boards of their intent to 'sunset' the Trillium product. PowerSchool provided an upgrade path for Ontario districts to migrate to the PowerSchool SIS platform. If districts decline the upgrade, PowerSchool will no longer provide support or further maintenance for

Trillium after August 31, 2021. If that were to occur the Board would no longer receive system upgrades i.e. Ministry compliance updates.

Action Plan and Associated Timeline

Implementation Strategy: Phase I – III Staggered Start

    Phase I
- All K-8 schools will migrate to PowerSchool SIS in Phase I. School opening would occur in Trillium with the migration beginning in October 2021.
- Secondary Alternative & Year Round Schools will be included in Phase I at the start of the 2021/22 school year.

    Phase II
- All Secondary schools will migrate in Phase II at the start of the 2022 /23 year.

    Phase III
- Special Education functions and processes will be migrated at the start of the 2023/24 school year. These include Individual Education Plan (IEP), Identification, Placement and Review Committee (IPRC), In-School Support Team (IST) and School Support Team (SST).
- All school information will be migrated to PowerSchool during implementation thereby minimizing the impact on school operations.

Resource Implications

Please refer to Appendix B for the update on 2020-21 budget versus actual expenditure amounts.

Communications Considerations

Regular updates to the Finance, Budget and Enrolment Committee will occur monthly through the first quarter (3 months) of the project, and quarterly thereafter. Project updates will be a standing item on the Audit Committee agenda through the implementation phase.

Board Policy and Procedure Reference(s)

P017 – Purchasing Policy

Appendices

- Appendix A: FBEC Staff Update Presentation
- Appendix B: SIS Status Report Summary

From

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