

ANCHORAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

ASD MEMORANDUM #257 (2005-2006)

May 8, 2006

TO: SCHOOL BOARD

FROM: OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF PURCHASE AGREEMENT SMART
TECHNOLOGIES INTERACTIVE WHITE BOARDS

ASD Goal: Establish and maintain a supportive and effective learning environment by providing safe, caring, barrier-free schools. Ensure public accountability through effective consultation with community to ensure wise use of financial and effective communication with students, staff, parents, community and government at all levels.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to enter into a Purchase Agreement for SMART Technologies Interactive white boards with The Chariot Company on an "as required" basis.

PERTINENT FACTS:

The Instructional Technology Department has evaluated the advantages of the leading interactive whiteboard solutions and verified their standard as SMART Technologies, Inc. SMART Technologies, Inc. interactive whiteboards have been used within the district since 2001 in both small and large scale implementations. The equipment has been proven to be very reliable and durable since neither Audio/Video Services nor the local product vendor report a single call for repair of any SMART Technologies, Inc. interactive whiteboard product purchased by the District.

Teachers throughout the District are using the SMART Technologies interactive whiteboards extensively in their daily work and curriculum in their classrooms. Therefore, ASD currently has a rich base of highly skilled educators already familiar with the SMART Technologies, Inc. product (hardware and software). Teachers who use SMART Technologies interactive whiteboards, as well as Instructional Technology staff and the local vendor, have provided and continue

to provide training for ASD teachers in the use of the SMART Technologies, Inc. product.

Until this point, this product has been purchased under a SMARTer Kids Foundation grant for SMART products through their reseller, The Chariot Group. This grant offered discounts ranging from 15% to 30% off suggested equipment list price, and included licenses and software. The white boards were discounted 30% off suggested list price. SMART Technologies, Inc. is now offering us a deeper discount of 40% off suggested list price for the white boards through a Major Account Program – Education (MAP-E) Classroom Technology Offering for the ASD. Support items are 30% to 35% off suggested retail. There are no other authorized distributors or resellers for the SMART Technologies product for the state of Alaska.

In addition to the deeper discounts, SMART Technologies will provide one SMART Board interactive white board with floor stand for use in the Teacher Training Center at no additional cost. SMART Technologies will provide electronic copies of the product manual and production specifications; electronics copies of SMART’s Notebook Workshop Guide and Learner’s Workbook; and two master copies of Notebook software on CD-ROM at no cost. An on-site train-the-trainer white board training will be provided for no additional cost to the District for up to 15 of the District’s trainers.

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