



Imagine what you can learn!

MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 22, 2022
TO: David Hurt, Purchasing
FROM: Matt Greco, Director of Instructional Technology
RE: **TEXT HELP JUSTIFICATION FOR SOLE SOURCE PROCUREMENT**

Scope of Work

To support the district's strategic priorities, Read&Write will provide accessibility options for all students in grades PreK-12 with 1:1 devices. The product Read&Write by TextHelp offers a universal tool that is accessible on all devices. Read&Write is intended for students, but all VPS staff can utilize its accessibility features. Read&Write allows users to have text read aloud with multiple accents, a dictionary with built-in definitions and images, translations, voice-to-text, voice notes, and predictive text while writing. The various tools allow students who require support as part of an Individual Education Plan (IEP) or to support student learning needs when required.

Minimum Requirements

Currently, Read&Write is accessed through a Chrome extension allowing users to log in with their district Google accounts. A toolbar for Read&Write is accessed on all webpages and PDF attachments. A keyboard is added to enable dyslexia fonts to be set as the standard for iPad users. Read&Write brings together multiple features of other products but allows the assisted technology to benefit its users, specifically students. Read&Writes ability to collaborate with Google Docs will enable students to annotate and complete the daily assignments for the classroom.

Market Analysis

Vancouver Public Schools will continue to utilize Read&Write, by TextHelp for staff and students PreK-12. TextHelp is the sole provider of domain licenses in programs like Read&Write and a Math tool called Equio that VPS has also used in the past. Other products like Grammarly and Wordtune are similar, but focus more on predictive text and not tools to help all student learners. The cost of Read&Write is also lower than products like WordTune, which is \$9.99 a user. In the Spring of 2021, VPS piloted Read&Write to support all students and presented it to ELL and Special Services, whose students and staff quickly adopted the program.

Recommended Acquisition

It is recommended that Read&Write by TextHelp be purchased for a cost of \$45,715.82

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES PROCURMENT DOCUMENTATION

SOLE SOURCE or INFORMAL COMPETITIVE REVIEW

Requisition Item: 12-month subscription

Requisition Number: 0742223007

Prior Purchase Order Number (if item had been approved previously): 742122017

Federal Program name: _____

1. Please describe the item and its function and how it is aligned with the goals and objectives of this Federal program.

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2. This is a sole source* because:

☒ sole provider (must provide documentation)

of a licensed or patented good or service

of factory-authorized warranty service

authorized by awarding agency such as OSPI or US Department of Education

sole response to RFP

emergency situation (fire, extreme weather, etc. Superintendent's determination required)

3. What necessary features does this vendor provide which are not available from other vendors?
Please be specific.

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4. What steps were taken to verify that these features are not available elsewhere?

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Other vendors were contacted (please list phone numbers and names, and explain why these were not suitable)

*Sole source: only one vendor possesses the unique and singularly available capability to meet the requirement of the solicitation.

Procurements of items for which the District has established a standard by designating a brand or manufacturer or by pre-approving via a testing shall be competitively bid if there is more than one vendor of the item.



REQUEST FOR SOLE SOURCE

Matt Greco

/

ITS

Name of Department Head

Dept./Division

Subject:

Sole Source Request for the Purchase Of: TextHelp

REQUESTED SUPPLIER: TextHelp

REQUISITION NUMBER: COST ESTIMATE: \$45,715.82

Sole source purchases are defined as clearly and legitimately limited to a single supplier. Sole source purchases are normally not allowed except when based upon strong technological grounds such as operational compatibility with existing equipment and related parts or upon a clearly unique and cost effective feature requirement. The use of sole source purchases shall be limited only to those specific instances which are totally justified to satisfy compatibility or technical performance needs.

STATEMENT OF NEED:

My department's recommendation for sole source is based upon an objective review of the product/service required and appears to be in the best interest of the District. I know of no conflict of interest on my part or personal involvement in any way with this request. No gratuities, favors or compromising action have taken place. Neither has my personal familiarity with particular brands, types of equipment, materials or firms been a deciding influence on my request to sole source this purchase when there are other known suppliers to exist.

Refer to the attached sole source justification as prepared by our department, to the attached review of available products/services and to my completed Purchase Requisition.

Requestor

[Signature], 9/9/22

Department Head

Approved

Rejected

Dave Hunt 9-9-2022

Signature of Requestor	Date	Signature of Dept. Head	Date
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Attachments: Contract
Copy of Excluded Parties List System Result



Texthelp Inc.
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Woburn, MA 01801

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Fax: (866) 248 0652
Email: u.s.info@texthelp.com

August, 08

Matt Greco
Vancouver Public Schools
PO Box 8937
Vancouver, WA 98668-8937

Dear Matt,

This letter is to certify that Texthelp is the sole source provider for Group and Unlimited Domain License subscriptions of the software Read&Write, OrbitNote, EquatIO, Fluency Tutor for Google, and WriQ and all their derivatives, when deployed to Educational Institutions (K-12 and Higher Education) in the State of Washington.

Purchase of Group and Unlimited Domain License subscriptions of the above named product(s) are precluded from competitive procurement due to exclusive distribution and marketing rights to Educational Institutions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "D. Rosette", written over a light gray rectangular background.

Doug Rosette
President
Texthelp Inc.
d.rosette@texthelp.com
(888)-248-0652