

BOARD AGENDA ITEM

March 22, 2022

SUBJECT:

ESSER III – ESOL Curriculum

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

As part of the ESSER III plan approved by the board on July 27, 2022, funds were allocated for the purchase of a consistent ESOL curriculum for K-12 students throughout Aiken County. A common curriculum will help ensure multilingual learners of all proficiency levels (Starting, Emerging, Developing, Expanding, Bridging), as well as Newcomer and SLIFE (Students with Limited or Interrupted Formal Education) students, receive appropriate English language acquisition and English development instruction as they move through levels of English proficiency in listening, speaking, reading and writing. Currently, ESOL teachers use a variety of resources to address the needs of their students.

Over a three-month period, ESOL teachers thoroughly investigated three different curricula, consulted other districts on the use of their curriculum, and sought guidance from the State Department's Title III office. The ESOL teachers unanimously determined that the Ballard and Tighe curriculum is aligned with the newly developed WIDA English Language Development Standards Framework and will serve as a guide to teachers in their instruction of multilingual learners and provides a bridge to ACPSD's Language Arts, Math, Social Studies, and Science content area standards across all grade levels.

ADMINISTRATIVE CONSIDERATION:

Administration recommends the purchase of the Ballard and Tighe curriculum based on the unanimous feedback from ESOL teachers.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the purchase and implementation of Ballard and Tighe curriculum for Multilingual students in grades K-12.

PREPARED BY:

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