

## **BOARD AGENDA ITEM**

September 8, 2020

### ***SUBJECT:***

Consideration for Two Additional Computer Technicians

### ***BACKGROUND INFORMATION:***

The District's 1:1 technology initiative for 2020 – 2021, funded with CARES money, reinforced the need for additional technology support for our schools, students, and staff.

The School Board approved creation of two computer technician positions as part of the original 2020 – 2021 budget. The positions have been funded by re-purposing (i.e. eliminating) a vacant coordinator position. Both technology positions have been filled.

### ***ADMINISTRATIVE CONSIDERATION:***

In addition to the CARES-funded 1:1 technology initiative, the District introduced Aiken Innovative (Ai), its virtual model, during Summer 2020 as one of two instructional delivery models available to students for the 2020 – 2021 school year. Parent/family survey responses prior to the unveiling of Ai indicated that approximately 20% of our students may participate in a virtual offering. The survey results under-represented the level of interest in virtual participation. Approximately 7,000 students, 30% of our enrollment, ultimately opted for Ai.

The addition of more than 10,000 laptops/devices, the service and maintenance requirements of Ai, and service and maintenance requirements of existing devices puts significant strain on the Technology staff. The additional workload is expected to be on-going even after the newness and rush of 2020 – 2021 back-to-school processes subside.

The Administration requests consideration on creation of two additional computer technician positions. The estimated salary and fringe cost of each is \$60,000. If approved, the positions would be incorporated among anticipated budget amendments that would be required as the State finalizes its 2020 – 2021 budget later this month.

### ***RECOMMENDATION:***

Approve creation of two additional computer technician positions.

### ***PREPARED BY:***

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