

SCC Campus Reps Q & A

Questions Received the Week of 11/16–19/20

Green Valley

1. **Are we still going to make the switch away from desktops by the end of this year, or can we have an additional school year to get files transferred, and make the switch teacher Chromebook only?**
 - A. COVID-19 disrupted all of the original rollout plans and associated timelines. We know that many teachers are using the older desktops along with their Chromebooks simultaneously for their teaching, giving students multiple camera angles to view. The last thing we want to do is remove or take something away that is providing benefit. The overall vision for the District is to move to the Cloud but we still have a lot of training and hardware updates that need to be completed with departments and central admin.
2. **How is the stipend payments for Kinder and First Reading Academy dispersed?** I have attended 3 sessions but have not received a stipend on my paycheck.
 - A. The stipend will be paid at the conclusion of the Reading Academy.

Haltom Middle

- 3a. **Why do we require campuses to purchase eligible items ONLY from the "warehouse" instead of through an approved vendor (i.e., Staples, Amazon)? If this warehouse is a BISD entity, how is the money earned used by the district?**
 - A. The warehouse sells all items at cost. There is no mark-up on the pricing and no delivery fees added to the cost of the items when purchased by campuses and departments.
- 3b. Several items at the warehouse cost significantly more than other approved vendors. Please see the examples below of how much more money was spent by a department on items that were required to be purchased from the warehouse:
 - Wooden Pencils: \$109.58 more at the warehouse
 - Laminating Pouches: \$10.67 more at the warehouse
 - Sheet Protectors: \$5.25 more at the warehouse
 - Tape: \$5.15 more at the warehouse

This difference totals to \$130.65 lost by the department due to this policy. This money could've been used by the department for other necessary supplies that their budget did not have adequate funds for.

Haltom Middle (#3b continued)

- A. In 2019, a District campus committee was created to discuss the warehouse inventory. The committee, comprised of principals, gathered information from their teachers regarding what items should be kept in the warehouse versus items that were best purchased from other vendors. Once the list was compiled, the committee commented that only name-brand items should be housed at the warehouse. The District issued a bid to vendors for the specific items identified by the committee. The items housed at the warehouse include the lowest cost from our main suppliers for these name-brand items. Since the District invests funds purchasing these items, campuses and departments are required to use the warehouse when purchasing these specific items.
- 3c. In addition to the money lost, the warehouse items were received unpackaged (wrapped in rubber bands) instead of arriving packaged like one would expect from other approved vendors.
 - A. The unpackaged items were a unique situation. The warehouse staff created supply kits for campuses. These supplies were left over from that project. All other purchases are individually packaged items.
- 3d. Also, entire purchase orders are getting denied if they include eligible items at the warehouse. This is causing staff to submit purchases more than once to order the essential items needed.
 - A. If warehouse items are included on a requisition, the entire requisition is not denied. The campus or department is asked to remove those items and resubmit. There is a separate process for requesting warehouse items.