



**VIRGINIA BEACH CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
**CHARTING THE COURSE**

*Department of Teaching and Learning*

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Carla A.B. Smith, CPPO, CPPB, Director, Office of Purchasing Services

**FROM:** Kipp D. Rogers, Ph.D., Chief Academic Officer   
Angela L. Seiders, Executive Director, Secondary Teaching and Learning   
Dena R.R. McElligott, Secondary Math Coordinator 

**VENDOR:** Suntex International, Inc.

**DOLLAR AMOUNT:** \$105,637.50

**DATE:** May 10, 2023

This memorandum is to certify that Suntex International, Inc. is the copyright and trademark holder and sole provider of *First In Math* which will be used to support mathematics instruction in grades 6 – 8. *First in Math* provides online mathematics practice for students using a variety of assessment formats, paired with immediate individual feedback based on student responses. The following factors also play a role in being unable to compare *First In Math* with other products on the market:

- The *First In Math* Online Program support national education objectives by preparing students for a future requiring literacy in mathematics, science and technology. They give students the tools to succeed -- fluency with fundamental math facts and operations, enhanced mental math, problem solving, pattern sensing, critical thinking, reasoning, number sense and communication skills -- laying the foundation for student achievement in higher-level math coursework.
- Through game play, students rapidly acquire critical skills. Games are designed to introduce math skills on a gradient. Beginning with the most basic challenges in the "Add Only" edition where students perform a single-step operation, students move along a continuum of math, toward complex multi-step algebraic problem solving.
- The games and programs have been successfully used by school throughout the US to add excitement and challenge to the basic math curriculum while increasing student enthusiasm for, and confidence in, mathematics.
- Aligns to the Virginia Mathematics Standards of Learning and the Virginia College and Career Ready Performance Expectations. The assessments also focus on specific content and skills that allow for targeted practice and the ability to strengthen fact fluency, automaticity, computational thinking, and other skills vital to math and social and emotional learning (SEL) like self-monitoring, goal setting, adaptability, and persistence.
- Generates detailed performance reports that provide data that tracks the proficiency of students in grade-level skills and allows the teacher to set practice goals for students.
- *First In Math* is a web-based program that students can use anywhere there is an internet connection.

The program will support Goal 1 of the Compass to 2025 by supporting the acquisition of numeracy skills to improve mathematics achievement and the implementation of a balanced assessment system with an emphasis on standards-based assessments.

The total purchase price of \$105,637.50 will be funded using funds from the Virginia Department of Education's FY22 Algebra Readiness grant.

  
Carla Smith (May 23, 2023 11:29 EDT)

**Date:** May 23, 2023

**Carla Smith, CPPO, CPPB**  
**Director of Purchasing**