



VIRGINIA BEACH CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
CHARTING THE COURSE

MEMORANDUM

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

FROM: Crystal L. Lewis-Wilkerson, Ed.D., Director of K-12 and Gifted Programs
Kelly F. Arble, K-12 World Languages Coordinator

SUBJECT: Sole Source Request
SUPPLIER: Extempore, The Speaking Practice App

DOLLAR AMOUNT: \$123,375.00

DATE: November 13, 2023

The purpose of this memo is to request approval for the purchase of Extempore, a language practice and assessment app. Extempore offers a convenient assessment platform that allows teachers to provide students with practice in all four communicative skills of reading, writing, listening, and speaking. The app has security features particular to language assessment that enable teachers to limit the use of online translators and offers a wider range of tools for giving feedback along with the capability to upload VBCPS world language rubrics. Additionally, the Extempore Commons provides a large bank of authentic performance assessment tasks for all languages offered in VBCPS and the Extempore team has collaborated with DTAL staff to create bank of performance tasks that are specifically aligned to the updated VBPCS world language curricula. Extempore is the only product that currently offers such a wide range of practice tasks in less commonly taught languages, such as Arabic, ASL, Chinese, and Japanese. Extempore integrates with Canvas and rostering is enabled through Class Link.

We anticipate using this service perpetually through the life of the grant and understand that extension will not be automatic and sole source justification will be submitted annually prior to renewal. Prior to FY24, Extempore was funded through the textbook budget and the cost fell under \$50,000 as the product was offered on a trial basis and then gradually implemented with select schools and teachers prior to being made available division wide. With the availability of grant funding through the FY24 DoDEA WLARP grant.

Of the estimated \$123,375.00 purchase price, \$123,375.00 is being funded by the FY24 DoDEA WLARP grant award which has an FY24 budget of \$2,000,000.00.

- Check here if this is software, webservice or digital content.
- I have verified the software is on the approved software list.


Carla Smith (Nov 17, 2023 15:00 EST)

Carla A.B. Smith, CPPO, CPPB
Director of Procurement

Nov 17, 2023