

INTERNAL MEMO

TO: Mr. Wonderful, Superintendent

FROM: Kim Harrison, Chief Technology Officer

DATE: March 21, 2016

RE: *Recommendation for Apex Learning for Algebra II Summer School*

I am recommending Apex Learning to meet the Algebra II needs of our championship football students. In making this recommendation, I have done the following inquiries and research:

I met with the Curriculum and Instruction, Career and Technical Education, and Alternative Education - Independent Study departments to confirm which online programs are currently being used in the district. The Career & Technical Education department is considering piloting Edmentum and the Independent Study program has a limited number of licenses for Edgenuity. In looking at UC Doorways, a website from the Regents of the University of California which lists the online providers and the A-G status for each course, Edgenuity is not A-G approved for the 2016-2017 school year to offer Algebra II and so it is not an option.

Of the three online learning programs that you inquired about, Apex Learning would be the best solution to meet the needs of our students because not only is Algebra II offered and A-G approved for 2016-2017, but Apex Learning also offers a summer school component that can easily fit within our existing summer school program. I CAN Learn does not have an A-G approved Algebra II program. BYU Independent Study is A-G approved for Algebra II, but the course is separated into two parts and does not have a summer school option or acceleration of the course content. I provided the course content syllabus from Apex Learning along with a small demo of course content to Mr. Math, our current Algebra II teacher, and he determined that the content was rigorous and appropriate for our students. Finally, in reviewing the necessary technology for Apex Learning courses, the math computer lab at the high school will accommodate the system and network requirements with some minor adjustments to our firewall and user policies.

The district currently offers a summer school program that is funded through our Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP). There are a variety of offerings and in speaking with the summer school coordinator, the funding of this course for our high school students can be incorporated into what is already planned for summer school. Because summer school is offered at the high school, access to computers will not be an obstacle, and Mr. Math has applied to teach summer school.

It is through this research that I determined that Apex Learning is the best solution for our football players to receive Algebra II.