

*Hardee County Public Schools
School Board Agenda Analysis*



Author(s): Michele Polk, Hardee Senior High School Principal

Date:

May 14, 2018

Subject:

Approval of Agile Minds Contract

Background Information:

Algebra 1 has the highest failure rate of any high school course nationally and many school leaders identify it as among their most pressing improvement priority. This past year, a portion of our students enrolled in Algebra I utilized the Agile Minds Intensive Math Program. Numerous walk-throughs revealed that students participating in the Agile Minds curriculum were more engaged with the math content. Teachers who utilized the program confirmed that the program made a positive difference in their student's engagement which in turn is expected to make a positive impact on the students' performance on the Algebra 1 EOC. Our request is to expand the use of the program in 2018-19 to all students enrolled in Algebra classes at HHS.

Strategic Plan Goal:

Goal One: To graduate all students

Administrative Consideration (include F.S., Rule, Authority, etc.)

FS 1001.41 states that the School Board shall determine policies and programs deemed necessary by it for the efficient operation and general improvement of the district school system.

Fiscal Impact:

The quote for the program is \$\$36,035. This amount includes online access for participating teachers and students, consumable books, summer training for teachers, and 2 days of on-site follow up training. This funding will impact all students enrolled in Algebra 1 in the 2018-19 school year.

Proposed Recommendation to School Board:

We recommend approval of the Agile Minds Proposal for Algebra 1 courses for the 2018-19 school year.

Director of Finance signature: _____

Action Required:

Consent Agenda



BOARD ACTION

5/24/18

Approved



April 9, 2018

Michele Polk, Ed.D.
Principal
Hardee Senior High School

Dear Michele,

Agile Mind is pleased to offer this proposal in support of Hardee Senior High School’s effort to improve Algebra 1 scores and performance on the MAFS assessment. We believe that in partnership, together we can make a significant impact in these areas. This proposal describes the components and services we recommend, provides pricing information, and suggests steps to get started on enacting these impactful solutions.

Agile Mind recommends these programs and services to help the district attain their goals:

Programs and Services	Description
Course programs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Algebra I (See product details in the appendix.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Digital teaching and learning system available to all leaders, teachers and students Online, job-embedded professional development, including complete, embedded, day to day guides to teaching every course topic
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Intensified Algebra I (extended period Intervention) (See product details in the appendix.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Blended teaching and learning system available to all leaders, teachers and students. Each student will receive our comprehensive digital curriculum in addition to consumable print Student Activity Books (a two volume set) to be used continuously throughout daily lessons as well as for homework Online, job-embedded professional development, including complete, embedded, day to day guides to teaching every course topic
Agile Assessment	Flexible, next-generation assessments identify students’ strengths and areas of need in critical standards for additional instructional feedback, guidance, and management.
Professional development institute for teachers and leaders	Powerful, regional and national institutes with the Agile Mind community of users, provide 2.5 days of professional development led by highly experienced educators.
Advisor sessions	On-site and in-class coaching and usage support to help educators successfully enact and get full value

	from the programs. Advisor sessions are scheduled throughout the academic year and customized to meet your local needs.
Technical and engineering support	Responsive Support Technicians ensure that the technical and logistical needs of your teachers, students, and other users are met in a timely way.

Cost Considerations and Timing **\$36,035**

Algebra I \$3,000

- Course services for up to 150 students and 2 teachers
- Participation in an Agile Mind Institute for teachers and leaders
- 2 Advice for Instruction teacher manuals

Intensified Algebra I

- Course services for up 275 students and 6 teachers \$28,535
- Participation in an Agile Mind Institute for teachers and leaders

Professional Development

- 2 Advisor Services during school year \$4,500

Next steps to being an Agile Mind Partnership	Important Dates
District reviews and accepts proposal	05/01/2018
District signs Agreement or issues purchase order	05/15/2018
District schedules an Implementation Planning and Logistics call with Agile Mind	06/01/2018
Teachers and leaders attend XX institute at XX	TBD

Information for placing an order

Signed Agreements or Purchase Orders can be sent to Agile Mind via:

Email: Laurie Mayhan - lmayhan@agilemind.com

Fax: 817.442.8351

Mail:

Agile Mind, Inc.
 Attn: "Orders"
 1705 W. Northwest Hwy Suite 160
 Grapevine, TX 76051

Appendices of Product and Service Information

AGILE MIND COURSE PROGRAMS

All Agile Mind programs include a complete set of tools to help teachers work most effectively and to enable students to take responsibility for their learning:

- Job-embedded professional development with just-in-time support, lesson plans, and high-yield strategies built with the support of teachers
- Rigorous, coherent course curricula built for our next-generation standards, enriched by animations, multiple representations, and simulations of central concepts
- Comprehensive practice, homework, and test preparation resources
- Rich, next-generation formative assessments, many automatically graded
- Real-time data and reports on the progress of effort and learning

More than a decade of research shows that a comprehensive alignment of instructional resources correlates positively and powerfully to student achievement and teacher satisfaction.

Algebra I

This crucial gateway course puts authoritative resources at teachers' fingertips and provides a rigorous yet scaffolded curriculum that engages and motivates students and lays the foundation for higher mathematics. Algebra I offers a powerful method for describing interdependence and change—two ideas that are essential to understanding mathematics. Throughout the course, students will:

- Learn to use basic algebraic tools to represent problem situations
- Gain a sound understanding of functions and their multiple representations
- Develop a solid understanding of rate of change
- Model and solve important problems with linear, exponential, and quadratic functions and related equations

Intensified Algebra I

Intensified Algebra I is a comprehensive intervention program for an extended-time class that helps students who are significantly behind become successful in algebra *within one academic year*. Central to the Intensified Algebra I program is the idea that struggling students need a powerful combination of additional time (class periods of 70–90 minutes); a challenging curriculum; cohesive, targeted supports for developing their capabilities as learners, and just-in-time interventions that address their misconceptions. Educators who serve these learners also need richer supports for their instructional practice. With these supports in place, students can get back on track, progress with their peers to graduate on time, and restore their confidence in their ability to succeed in advanced learning. This groundbreaking program melds best practices in algebra instruction with advances in developmental and social psychology and in research on struggling learners to shape students' engagement, confidence, and commitment to challenging academic programs.

Design principles of the curriculum include:

- Rigorous algebra curriculum targeting students' conceptual understanding, associated skills, and related problem-solving and reasoning capabilities
- Efficient and effective review/repair strategies



- Ongoing, distributed practice
- Social, psychological interventions that promote students' positive beliefs about their academic abilities
- Supports for teachers, including classroom routines to help new teachers establish positive learning environments
- Tools that help students organize information and support metacognitive awareness
- Enhanced formative assessment strategies
- Supports for literacy and language development

To achieve those objectives with partner schools and districts while accommodating the challenges they face – such as the costs for proven resources, preparation time for teachers, and out-of-class time for professional development – we design and deliver a mix of services that leverage next-generation technology and in-person support in all of our professional development and support offerings.

Agile Mind Institutes

Each year, in the spring and early summer, teachers, coaches and instructional leaders—from those who are just getting started with Agile Mind to our most experienced users—participate in face-to-face professional development institutes. Teachers learn to use and integrate Agile Mind planning and instructional tools and assessment materials into their practices, gain experience in collaborating and using common lessons and assessments, and learn ways to enhance their strategies for ensuring a successful, rigorous learning experience for all students while not sacrificing coverage of the syllabus. These 2-3 day regional conferences support the needs and interests of a diverse audience of educators. To support the implementation of these programs, the institutes provide

- Comprehensive walkthroughs of each of the instructional programs to develop participants' understanding of the instructional tools, assessment tools, and professional development resources for integration into their existing curriculum
- Specific instruction on how to use the online tools and engagement strategies to ensure that participating teachers have the confidence and understanding to build strong implementations
- Research on outcomes of effective practices and on setting reasonable expectations for success
- Half-day leadership sessions to equip district and campus leaders with knowledge of high-yield practices for implementation of the program and integration of Agile Mind course programs into their curriculum

Agile Mind Advisory Services

In addition to institute attendance, teachers participate in customized Advisor sessions during the academic year. An Agile Mind Advisor session supports teachers in successful enactment of their program and is designed to meet their immediate needs.

- Advisors conduct pre-session analyses of school data and collaborate with district or school staff to customize advisor sessions to meet participant needs
- Either by telephone, webinar, or on site (in districts having sufficient teacher participants), Advisors share the experiences of educators in other settings and work with teachers to develop their confidence and their success using Agile Mind course programs
- After each session, Advisors provide to identified district or school leaders a written summary of session activities and outcomes, and recommended next steps to strengthen the implementation
- Advisors also make themselves available by phone and email for ongoing just-in-time support
- Districts seeking additional support can do so by purchasing additional professional services