

**HAYS CONSOLIDATED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Date: May 18, 2026

Agenda Item: M.1a

Board Goal: Student Achievement

Subject: Consideration and possible approval of the purchase of the Special Education Digital Assessment Library – NCS Pearson

Administrator Responsible/Position: Marivel Sedillo, Deputy Superintendent / Chief Academic Officer
Derek McDaniel, Executive Officer of Curriculum & Instruction
Michelle Velasquez, Executive Officer of Special Programs

A. Purpose of Agenda Item:

Action needed Information only Receive input

B. Authority for This Action:

Local Policy: Law or Rule
CH – Purchasing & Acquisition
EHBA – Special Education: Identification, Evaluation, and Eligibility

C. Goal or Need Addressed: The purpose of this agenda item is to procure digital assessment library from NCS Pearson for special education evaluations.

D. Summary:

- Previous board action relating to this item:** The Board approved the purchase of NCS Pearson digital assessment library March 2025
- Future action anticipated:** Yearly renewal for the digital assessment library used to evaluate students for special education eligibility.
- Background information:** The Digital Assessment Library Plus (DALs+) is a platform that allows for paperless assessment of students using Pearson assessment tools and can be used by LSSPs, Educational Diagnosticians, Speech Language Pathologists, and Occupational Therapists. DALs + will be used to complete special education assessments, initials and re-evaluations, and the information derived from these assessments will help determine eligibility for services as well as determine student strengths and weaknesses which can be used by the ARD Committee to determine goals and objective or the information can be used by general education staff to develop interventions for students who do not meet eligibility for special education services. Per NCS Pearson “[t]he library provides unlimited use of these systems, access to digital stimulus books and manuals, and extensive training resources. The assessments and resources cover Ability, Achievement, Behavior, Mental Health, Speech and Language, and Motor Sensory, all of which automatically upgrade to new editions as they’re published and available for unlimited use.

E. Comments Received:

Cabinet DLT FBOC Teacher Org. Reps. Other:

F. Administrative Recommendation: The administration recommends approval of the procurement of Digital Assessment Library for Schools from NCS Pearson.

Advantages and benefits of this proposal: Allows digital option for evaluation reducing paper usage, storage and instant access to updated evaluation protocols.

Expected results in terms of student benefit/achievement: Students will be evaluated on time using research based, norm referenced evaluation approved to be used for special education evaluation.

Effect of this action on other parts of the system: Budget

Consequences of not approving this recommendation: Hays CISD will not retain professional and special education evaluations may not be completed on time. Additional, paper-based orders of protocols will need to be ordered to meet required tasks and timelines.

G. Fiscal Impact and Cost: \$104,344.45

Budget **Bond** **Grant/Special Funds:** **Other**

Budget Amendment Needed

Prior Year Spending for this item/service: \$89,914.65

Bid / Contract Information: BuyBoard 748-24

Reasons for rejecting alternatives:

Future/Ongoing: Yearly renewal is anticipated

H. Monitoring and Reporting Time Line:

Person responsible for evaluating this decision or action: Michelle Velasquez, DeAnn Hoscheck

Evaluation method and timeline: Yearly monitoring and reporting to TEA regarding completed evaluations on time.

Next report to the Board: Spring 2027

I. Suggested Motion:

I move that the Hays CISD Board of Trustees approve the purchase of special education digital assessment library from NCS Pearson for an amount not to exceed \$104,344.45, as presented.