



memo

To: The Board of Education and Dr. Patrick Broncato, Superintendent
From: Curt Saindon, Assistant Superintendent for Business Services/CSBO
Josh Halverson, Director of Technology Services
Date: July 16, 2026
Subject: Recommendation to Approve Dell DataCenter/HyperV Proposal and Agreement

In June we discussed in detail the need to migrate from our current VMWare/VXRail system for our in-house data management, data recovery and application management systems to a new platform and program. After an extensive IT Department review, and consideration of various systems, it is recommended by them that we move to the Dell Data Center platform with the Dell Hyper V program, as outlined last month. This change is necessitated by the purchase of the VMWare Software by a company named Broadcom, as well as Dell phasing out support for their VXRail Server Technology. In the end, the new company's platform is focusing on supporting large and very large companies and they have little to no interest in supporting small individual businesses or entities like our school district.

With Board approval Josh Halverson and Mike Feely would like to order the required hardware and software later this summer from Dell Eastern, get it in the fall and then plan for installation of the new platform and program over Winter Break. The VMWare system contract actually runs through mid-April, so that would give us about three and a half months of redundancy/overlap where we could get everything migrated over to our new platform, test it, and ensure a seamless transition to the new platform in April of 2027. This also allows us to budget for the purchase in FY26-27, as we finalize our budget this summer. Funds for this purchase would come from the IT Budget, as this purchase is not E-Rate eligible.

Josh and Mike obtained three price quotes from various vendors for a configuration similar to what we have now, and allowing for a 20% growth margin for future needs. Dell Eastern quoted the Dell DataCenter System with Dell Hyper V Technology for \$212,881.91, and after review it was determined to be the best solution at the best price. The Dell DataCenter system (Dell PowerEdge and Dell PowerVault technology) would then replace the VMWare and VXRail technology next spring. Going forward the annual maintenance and licensing costs would decrease from about \$40K+ per year with the VMWare/VXRail technology (used to be about \$18K per year until Broadcom bought the company) to \$0 for the comparable Dell HyperV



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software (provided free of charge as part of the Dell DataCenter system). As part of this implementation, they also recommend transitioning our Data Recovery site at Sipley from the VMWare platform to the HyperV platform (to remove all VMWare and VXRail technology from the school district) and this price quote includes that one-time data recovery migration cost (\$13,675). So the total cost is made up of the technology hardware and software refresh (\$181,976.11), the software licensing (\$17,230.80) and the data recovery system migration (\$13,675.00). With approval by the Board in July, Josh and Mike would execute the purchase orders and order the equipment right away, get everything in the fall and then get the new system up and running over Winter Break. As always, please let us know if you have any questions. Thank you.

RECOMMENDATION

It is the recommendation of the Administration that the Board approve the proposal from Dell Eastern, as provided herein, for the purchase of the Dell Data Center and Dell Hyper V data management and application management program, including a one-time technology refresh for \$181,976.11 and one-time software licensing of \$17,230.80, and one-time data recovery system migration costs of \$13,675. The total cost would therefore be \$212,881.91 for the hardware, software and data migration costs, and then no appreciable annual costs going forward thereafter. These expenses would be paid for from the FY26-27 IT Operating Budget from existing funds, and with Board approval the IT Department would order the new equipment right away in hopes of receiving it in the Fall and installing the new system over Winter Break, to ensure a smooth and seamless transition to this new platform before our existing VMWare and VXRail program expires in April of 2027.