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ADOPTED - BOARD OF TRUSTEES COMMUNITY
COLLEGE DISTRICT NO. 508
MAY 12, 2010

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT NO. 508
County of Cook and State of Illinois

STARFISH RETENTION SOLUTIONS
TITLE III INITIATIVE
HAROLD WASHINGTON COLLEGE

REPORTS **THE CHANCELLOR**

that Harold Washington College intends to launch Starfish, an interactive academic early alert software that works with Blackboard. The initial focus will be on first year, first time college students with a special focus on students placing in developmental mathematics and English as part of its Title III Grant: Pathways to Careers. Additionally, this project is designed to address the District priorities of retaining first time, first year college students with a particular focus on higher graduation rates and certificate completion in career programs; and

that in order to develop and execute this plan, there is a need for Harold Washington College to invest in a user friendly academic early alert software which focuses on student success and retention; and

that Harold Washington College is requesting approval to purchase a one year software license from Starfish Retention Solutions, Inc. to provide the early alert software; and

that Starfish Retention Solutions, Inc. has proposed to provide the software license in the total amount of \$15,000 which includes training of faculty and staff; and

that Starfish Retention Solutions, Inc. is an exclusive Blackboard Developer; and

that this software purchase is exempt from the District's competitive bidding procedures; and

that the Office of M/WBE Contract Compliance has reviewed the above request and, as there is no opportunity to subcontract for the licensing needed to support the Blackboard Inc. services, is recommending a waiver of compliance for this purchase with the Board Approved Participation plan.

RECOMMENDS **THE CHANCELLOR**

that the Board of Trustees authorizes the Chairman to execute an agreement with Starfish Retention Solutions, Inc for the purchase of a one year academic early alert software license in an amount not to exceed \$15,000 for Harold Washington College.

FINANCIAL \$15,000 - Title III Grant: Pathways to Careers 21000-2000500-00028-105311020-544000

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl L. Hyman
Chancellor