OFFICE OF INSTRUCTIONAL ENHANCEMENT AND INTERNAL OPERATIONS
Summary of State Board of Education Agenda Items
February 17-18, 2011

OFFICE OF VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

09. Approval to renew agreement with Blackboard, Incorporated to provide and host an on-line instructional software solution for Vocational Education and Workforce Development

- Awarded Vendor: Blackboard, Incorporated
  Washington, DC

Scope of Project: Blackboard provides an on-line instructional software solution for the Office of Vocational Education and Workforce Development. The software is a proposed model that has provided an optimal mix which continually delivers excellent, highly available responsive support. Blackboard also provides an account manager who is responsible for implementation planning, project management, and ongoing account management.

Contingent upon State Board of Education approval and Information Technology Services (ITS) board approval, the agreement becomes effective in February 2011.

Scope of Contract:

- Term of Contract: February 21, 2011 – June 30, 2012
- Total Amount to be Awarded: $900,324.67
  Year 1 (FY 2011) $358,664.21
  Year 2 (FY 2012) $541,660.46
- Method of Award: ITS Procurement
- Funding Source: State funds

Section 25-53-3 of the Mississippi Code of 1972 defines ITS authority over the acquisition of any information technology, computer or telecommunications equipment, electronic word processing and office systems, or services utilized in connection therewith, including, but not limited to, all phases of computer software and consulting services and insurance on all state-owned computer equipment. State agencies and institutions of higher learning (IHLs) are required by law to follow ITS procedures in information technology procurements for hardware, software and services. Competitive bids or proposals must be solicited for all acquisitions of information technology (IT) equipment/hardware, software, and services in excess of $25,000.

Information Technology Services on behalf of the Mississippi Department of Education approved the continuation of the agreement with Blackboard.

Recommendation: Approval