




OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

Item 8.1

PRESENT TO BOARD: OCTOBER 27, 2021
TO: SOUTH FLORIDA STATE COLLEGE
DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES
FROM: THOMAS C. LEITZEL 
SUBJECT: ELLUCIAN BANNER SaaS UPGRADE

As part of the Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds (HEERF) appropriated as part of the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 (CRRSAA) and the American Rescue Plan (ARP), the College can use HEERF funds *for any other costs for computer system upgrades that are reasonably related to “significant changes to the delivery of instruction due to the coronavirus.”* To that end, College staff has engaged in discussions with Ellucian Company, LP, the maker of the College’s enterprise resource planning (ERP) system Banner® regarding how we might upgrade our system to provide for improved operations in a remote operations/distance learning environment. The recommendation of the College team and our business partner is to migrate the College’s Banner® installation to a Software as a Service (SaaS) environment. In addition, and as a part of this agreement, the company proposes a five-year licensing agreement that fixes the College’s software licensing costs until 2026.

The transition to Banner® SaaS will improve the College’s capacity to support students and faculty in a remote learning environment, enable the College to respond to future natural disasters such as hurricanes and pandemics in a more effective manner, reduce the College’s exposure to IT security threats by leveraging the IT security resources of its business partner, and improve College operations through the expanded utilization of the capabilities of the Banner® software by reducing manual paper processes and improving document workflow in student services, HR/payroll, and finance.

District Board of Trustees Policy 4.04 – *Purchasing* establishes that pursuant to Section 287.014, Florida Statutes, Board approval is required for purchases in excess of \$350,000. Further, State Board of Education Rule 6A-14.0734, Florida. Administrative Code, establishes that information technology resources are exempt from the requirement to solicit competitive offers.

Based on the recommendation of staff, I recommend that the DBOT approve the agreement with Ellucian Company, LP, for software licensing and support services to migrate the College’s Banner® ERP platform to a SaaS environment and enter into a five-year licensing agreement.

SUGGESTED MOTION:

Move to approve the agreement with Ellucian Company, LP, to Banner® SaaS pursuant the attached proposal dated October 10, 2021.