QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

RFP 011725LB Library and Textbook Automated Inventory System

1. In "PART V: SCOPE OF SERVICES (DETAILS)," under the section Critical Technology Requirements, bullet point 15 states: *"Support for automated interface with district student system for patron data maintenance (additions, updates, deletions, and transfers)."*
   Can you please clarify what is meant by "automated interface"?

   Answer: It would mean using a PowerSchool plug-in to keep student and staff roster data updated within the application. The tighter and more comprehensive the integration the better, including potentially making textbook/library info for a student visible in PowerSchool/PowerTeacher. But at minimum a plug-in to get student and staff data from PS and keep that information updated in the Library/Textbook system.

2. **Student and Teacher Identifiers**
   - Which student and teacher identifier(s) are expected to be supported in the system?
     Answer: I'm not sure why this is a specific request here, but if given a choice we would always pick the STUDENT_NUMBER field, and of course if they support state student ID, that information is in PS for their system to metabolize as well. We could and really should use the TEACHER_NUMBER (employee number) for staff ID.

   - Will the roster exchange via the PowerSchool Plug-In include these identifier(s)?
     Answer: It would have to include a unique identifier for all students and staff and synch data based on that identifier. I'm sure all systems would do this. Again, PS Student_Number is obviously preferred and they should have some method of allowing to use Student_Number as our numeric identifier. Employee number (Teacher_Number in PowerSchool) would be the preferences for staff.

3. **Textbook Distribution Requirements**
   The RFP states: "*System must include a robust textbook distribution system that allows for distributions to teachers and students via point-and-click methods, scanning of student ID and textbook bar codes directly into the system, and via portable scanners with necessary record validation and error handling*."
   - Could you provide more details on the expected functionalities and any specific requirements for record validation and error handling?
     Answer: The textbook distribution system should integrate with existing district systems such as PowerSchool and leverage unique identifiers (e.g., Student_Number for students and Teacher_Number for staff) to facilitate accurate and seamless distribution.
     Key functionalities and specific requirements include:

     - Integration with District Systems - The system must synchronize student and teacher identifiers using a PowerSchool plug-in, ensuring that textbook distribution records are tied to accurate and up-to-date user information from PowerSchool.
     - Validation Using Unique Identifiers - During distribution, the system should validate scanned data (student IDs and textbook barcodes) against the synced records in the system.
     - Error Handling and Real-Time Notifications - If a scanned ID or barcode does not match existing records, the system should immediately notify the user with specific error messages (e.g., "ID not found" or "Textbook already assigned").
     - Data Synchronization and Reporting - Records for textbook assignments must synchronize with district systems, ensuring that any updates to student or staff data in PowerSchool are reflected in the textbook system. Reporting tools should allow administrators to track distribution status, highlight discrepancies, and review logs of validated and error-prone transactions.
     - Historical Data Compatibility - The system should accommodate data migration from current systems (Booktracks for textbooks) to ensure continuity and validation against historical records.

4. **Historical Data Migration**
   - What specific historical data — including object names, object relationships, and field formats — must be migrated?
   Answer: This would be between Booksystems and the new vendor, or solely dependent on the new vendor's knowledge and familiarity with Booksystems/Atriuum. IT has no insight or previous access/experience with the existing internal workings of Atriuum or BookSystems.

   - What data export format(s) are available for migration? The RFP mentions: "*Data conversion from Book Systems, Atriuum (current library automation solution), and Booktracks (current textbook automation solution), including historical data held on the current systems.*"
   Answer: The same answer here as well: that is dependent on either BookSystems being cooperative with the new vendor, or the new vendor being able to manage the migration based on their own experience.

Thank you,

Procurement Services