To: Superintendent Laura White

From: Thomas Watkins-Hoskins, Armani Alexander

Re: Black River School District

Date: July 8, 2015

*Decision Memo*

The many different proposals that have been received on what to do with the new technology have been very overwhelming. As you know, we were informed about the non-profit organization known as the Center for Technology in Government (CTG). It is my belief that this organization will be a valuable resource in making a decision about which proposal you should choose.

The Center for Technology in Government is a non-research institution in the University at Albany in Albany, New York, whose mission is to “foster public sector innovation, enhance capability, generate public value, and support good governance”. The organization was created in 1993, and is an applied research center devoted to improving government and public services through policy, management, and technology innovation. As to how Black River will make use of its resources, it should be noted that the CTG has a variety of online tools that have assisted both government and non-profit organizations, and these publicly available tools should be sufficient for finding an innovative solution to the Black River dilemma, as that is the CTG’s specialty.

The CTG’s available online tools are as follows:

**1**. *Open Government Portfolio Public Value Assessment Tool* **2**. *The XML Toolkit* **3**. *New Models of Collaboration for Delivering Government Services: A Guide for Managers* **4**. *Opening Gateways: The Guide and Online Workbench* **5**. *e-Gov FirstStop* **6**. *Insider's Guide to Using Information in Government*. These tools are useful as they allow governmental institutions find creative solutions to modern problems using technology as effectively as possible.

Because the issue at hand is in dealing with allocating the resources given to the Black River School district by Marianne Gordimer, the best resource to address this concern is #4, the Opening Gateways: The Guide and Online Workbench. This tool accommodates the demand for information to be available both electronically and readily. The following points convey its strengths:

* Helps groups of people as they collaborate on the design of electronic records access program
* Allows multiple users to capture individual ideas and to contribute to group efforts through the Workbench’s collaboration features.
* Makes considerations for the users, uses, content, operation, and cost.

This tool will streamline the process of accessing information for student, while making effective use of the technology Marianne has donated to the district.