

**INTER-OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE****LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**TO:** Fred Weintraub  
Independent Monitor

**DATE:** August 17, 2012

**FROM:** John Deasy, Superintendent

**SUBJECT: INTEGRATED STUDENT INFORMATION SYSTEM (ISIS)  
PHASE 2 ALTERNATIVE IMPLEMENTATION**

This memo provides a brief explanation of the urgent need to explore an alternative to LAUSDMAX and proposes an optimal alternative to achieve the milestones of ISIS on time and on budget. I am committed and confident that LAUSD will meet all of our upcoming ISIS milestones, but I want to discuss with you an approach we would like to pursue in order to meet those milestones.

Even though we were able to successfully meet the conditions of ISIS Milestone 3 (go-live date of June 29<sup>th</sup>), I remain concerned about the performance of our current software provider. The continuous delay in upgrades or enhancements to LAUSDMAX, the low quality and performance of the system, and the estimated cost to complete the project through Harris has forced ITD to search for a more feasible alternative to fully implement Phase 2 of ISIS. ITD has found an optimal solution in the Achievement Technology Learning Assessment System (ATLAS), a student information system co-developed by Microsoft with Fresno Unified School District (FUSD).

**ISIS Phase 2 Implementation**

Phase 2 consists of administrative modules including enrollment, counseling, scheduling, transcripts, and state reporting as well as interfaces with the non-LAUSDMAX components and applications of the ISIS House (such as Cafeteria Management System and the Destiny Library and Textbook Manager) to integrate data. ITD proposes a hybrid approach in implementing Phase 2 through the continued use of existing LAUSDMAX modules and concurrently creating non-LAUSDMAX modules with ATLAS, and then gradually phasing out existing LAUSDMAX modules with ATLAS modules.

A critical concern that arises in implementing a system is the impact to the end-users. It is important to note that the implementation of ATLAS will be transparent to the teachers, administrators, and parents. That is, while the invisible internal components of ISIS gradually change from LAUSDMAX to ATLAS, our end-users will continue seeing and using the same external interface ("front end") of ISIS.

**Scope, Schedule, Cost, and Quality**

This hybrid approach through ATLAS will be implemented and completed within the current ISIS Phase 2 project constraints. First, the scope and project schedule of the ISIS Phase 2 will continue to be the same regardless of the software behind the system. Second, the cost of this alternative, which includes the budget amount per the settlement proposal with Harris and reduced ITD labor costs, is significantly less than LAUSDMAX. In addition, the quality of ATLAS is superior to LAUSDMAX due to a number of factors including newer technology, industry programming standards, and lead Microsoft developers. Lastly, ATLAS was developed from the ground up, with significant input and feedback from teachers and administrators. Through this hybrid approach, Phase 2 can be accomplished on schedule at a much lower cost without compromising the quality delivered to our students, parents, teachers, and administrators.

Thank you for your continued support of the ISIS Project. I look forward to discussing this proposed alternative with you as soon as possible.