



College Station Independent School District

Success...each life...each day...each hour

MEMORANDUM

To: Mike Martindale, Superintendent *mm*

From: Amy Drozd, Chief Financial Officer *A Drozd*

Date: August 12, 2020

Subject: Interlocal Acquisition Agreement – CSISD & Region 4 ESC

Agenda Item: J – 3.

BACKGROUND

Operation Connectivity is a statewide effort coordinated by TEA to allocate CARES Act funding for the purchase of eLearning devices and home internet solutions to enable remote learning during the COVID-19 pandemic. This program provides matching funds to facilitate purchases of necessary devices and hotspots. Participation in this program offers the District better overall pricing, matching funds through CARES and faster delivery due to supply chain limitations at this time.

Discussions about Operation Connectivity began about the middle of July 2020. It was not until July 27, 2020 that district staff were informed TEA had contracted with Region 4 ESC as a liaison for the purchases. Information was shared about tentative allotments, but final pricing for the equipment was still not known. The following is a timeline of events:

- Monday, July 27, 2020 – Informational webinar
- Wednesday, July 29, 2020 – Draft of the ILA with Region 4 ESC and order forms made available
- Sunday, August 2, 2020 – Order quantities due to Region 4 ESC
- Monday, August 3, 2020 – ILA received with quantity and final pricing
- Tuesday, August 4, 2020 – Signed ILA due to Region 4 ESC
- Thursday, August 6, 2020 – Invoice for eLearning devices received with electronic payment due within three business days

CSISD secured our program participation by utilizing the delegation of authority for purchasing and procurement as granted by the Board of Trustees on March 27, which extends for the duration of the Governor's Declaration of Disaster. This declaration of disaster originally signed on March 13, 2020, was renewed on July 10th and extended again on August 8, 2020, which states "...to the extent enforcement of any state statute or administrative rule regarding contracting or procurement would impede any state agency's emergency response that is necessary to cope with this declared disaster, I hereby suspend such statutes and rules for the duration of this declared disaster..."

Amy Drozd
Chief Financial Officer

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Mike Martindale
Superintendent of Schools



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TASB advised districts that are using the above declaration to have their Board of Trustees ratify the ILA at the next available board meeting.

RECOMMENDATION

Administration recommends the Board of Trustees ratify the ILA between CSISD and Region 4 ESC for Operation Connectivity allowing for the purchase of the following:

- 40 Hotspots
- 410 Laptops
- 125 iPads

The total cost of the above devices is \$207,900 with CSISD's portion being \$103,950 which will be funded from the General Fund and/or the Instructional Materials Allotment.