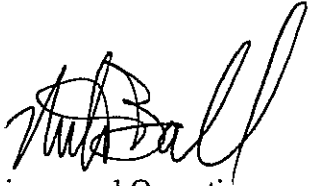




College Station Independent School District

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

MEMORANDUM

To: Dr. Eddie Coulson, Superintendent 

From: Mike Ball, Deputy Superintendent for Business and Operations

Date: April 11, 2008

Subject: Selection of architect firms to serve as a resource for the Long Range Educational Planning Committee and/or to provide architectural services associated with new school facilities that may result from that planning process.

Agenda Item: K-1

Board Priority/
District Goal: Priority 3, Goal 4

BACKGROUND

A Request For Qualifications (RFQ) for Architectural Services was circularized to the public requesting interested firms to submit their qualifications to the District. Nine firms responded to the RFQ.

The submitted qualifications were evaluated by three members of the Board of Trustees, the Superintendent and the Deputy Superintendent for Business and Operations. The evaluation criteria were stated in the RFQ. That evaluation resulted in the selection of three firms that were extended an invitation to interview with the selection committee.

The selection committee was comprised of two members of the Board of Trustees, members of the Superintendent's Cabinet, the Director of Construction Services, and the Director of Maintenance and Operations. The three firms invited for interviews were Corgan+PBA, SHW Group and VLK Architects. All of the interviewed firms were well qualified and reputable firms.

The selection committee interviewed the representatives of the firms and evaluated them based on criteria listed in the RFQ. The firm of SHW Group has extensive experience in bond program planning, design of high schools and other school facilities. They also have a number of professional staff with wide and varied experience working with Texas public school districts. The committee concluded that the SHW Group would be the appropriate firm to serve as a

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resource to the Long Range Educational Planning Committee and to provide architectural services associated with a bond program that evolves from that planning process, with the exception of elementary school facilities.

The firm of VLK Architects has a long history of providing excellent service to the District related to elementary school design. The designs of Forest Ridge Elementary School, Creek View Elementary School and College Hills Elementary School are the result of extensive input from District stakeholders. The selection committee concluded that VLK Architects would be the appropriate firm to design elementary school facilities that might evolve from the work of the Long Range Educational Planning Committee.

Many districts across the state utilize the services of more than one firm of architects. The committee concluded that adding the SHW Group to the resources available to the District while maintaining the District's professional relationship with VLK Architects would provide significant value to the District as the long range planning process unfolds.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board of Trustees of College Station Independent School District consider authorizing the Superintendent or his designee to negotiate and execute a contract with SHW Group to serve as a resource to the Long Range Educational Planning Committee and to provide architectural services associated with facilities included in the next bond program that evolves from the work of that committee, with the exception of elementary school facilities. It is further recommended that the Board of Trustees authorize the Superintendent or his designee to negotiate and execute a contract with VLK Architects to provide architectural services associated with elementary school facilities included in the next bond program.