



HIGLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

2935 South Recker Road, Gilbert, Arizona 85295

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April 3, 2024 - Board Meeting Agenda Questions & Responses

What services did they provide?

APPLIED ECONOMICS LLC	1079	3/6/2024	240208	202402728	\$3,129.00	DOCUMENTATION & PRESENTATION
APPLIED ECONOMICS LLC	1079	3/6/2024	240208	202402728	\$2,702.00	ENROLLMENT PROJECTIONS
APPLIED ECONOMICS LLC	1079	3/6/2024	240208	202402728	\$7,762.00	PLANNING DATABASE DEVELOPMENT

Applied Economics provided the demographic report used in the citizen committee meetings.

What exactly is this charge for?

AZ DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION	1081	3/12/2024	HNSPDHU24B	202400289	\$3,727.84	ADMINISTRATIVE FEE FOR ALL DIVERTED POUNDS TO PROCESSORS (SY23/24). THE AZ DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION WILL BE COLLECTING A TWO CENT PER POUND ADMINISTRATIVE FEE FOR ALL DIVERTED POUNDS SENT TO A CONTRACTED PROCESSOR IN SCHOOL YEAR (SY23/24)
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This is a processing fee paid to the Arizona Department of Education (ADE) Nutrition Services department to utilize the bulk commodity services provided by ADE.

5.6 Overnight and/or Out-of-State Staff Travel

CSTAG Training-Who is this through? The documents do not provide the vendor/source.

Comprehensive School Threat Assessment Guidelines (CSTAG) training. CSTAG is a school-based behavioral threat assessment and management training that helps educators and staff determine whether a threat is serious or not, as well as develop intervention plans to help students stay off of the pathway to violence. For more information on CSTAG, visit their website, <https://www.schoolta.com/> Dr. Bond is the trainer.

5.12 Approval of Agreement between Higley Unified and Commerce Bank

Are there any incentives or benefits for vendors to opt for electronic payments over checks?

The incentive for vendors is receiving funds in a more expedited process.

How will the district garner approximately \$110,000 in revenue next fiscal year?

The district will garner revenue from the revenue share pricing model for accepting payment via Electronic Fund Transfer (EFT).

How does the district plan to utilize the anticipated \$110,000 in additional revenue generated from electronic payments?

The district will look to offset M&O costs with the additional revenue.

5.14 CTE Programs (Engineering and Software Development) to CDW Government, LLC

65x desktop computers (\$160,225 which is appx \$2500 per computer), why are we purchasing such expensive computers? Have less costly options been explored that would still meet the requirements for this CTE?

We are purchasing 65 computers for the Engineering program at HHS. The minimum requirements for the CTE computers were based on the program's software requirements. These computers need to have upgraded RAM and graphics capabilities as the CTE students are using them for Autodesk CAD Software and other software requiring additional processing speeds.

Why are we buying only 35 monitors but 65 computers?

One of the labs was upgraded to dual monitors last year and will continue to use existing monitors to save money. This will update the other lab to dual monitors as well.

5.15 Parking Lot and Bus Lane Renovation of Sossaman Middle School to Rytan Construction

Can you elaborate on the specific issues with parking capacity? It's hard to tell by the image provided as to what exactly is changing.

The parking issues are at the front of Sossaman MS in the Early Childhood and front office parking lots. By adding additional parking to the bus lane staff can be relocated to those new spots opening up the front of the school.

Why was only one eligible bid received for the project? What were the eligibility requirements?

The district received two No Bids, one ineligible bid, and one bid that followed the procurement requirements listed in the solicitation for this project. The eligibility requirements were to submit a bid, including experience and price before the deadline.

What steps were taken to ensure a competitive bidding process?

The district sent out the solicitation for this project to four general contractors and held an open site walk with the architect.

Will this be done over the summer to ensure there is no impacts on student or staff safety during the construction phase?

Yes, this project is scheduled for summer to ensure no impact to student or staff safety during the construction phase.

5.16 Cooperative Vendors Purchasing Threshold to Exceed \$100,000 for FY 2023/2024

What changes in the scope or volume of services/products required from these vendors were made to necessitate the increase in spending?

The change in purchasing thresholds to the vendors listed is due to the district utilizing different cooperative vendors for services/products. This is not an increase in spending outside of the approved budget.

5.17 (IGA) between Higley Unified and Maricopa County School Superintendent for Election Services

Is this IGA renewed biennially, regardless of whether an election is scheduled? If it's only initiated in preparation for an upcoming election, then it should be subject to a separate vote instead of it being part of the consent agenda.

The IGA is renewed at the end of the term date. It is not required to be voted on via roll call vote which is why it's in consent.

Is this contract 350 pages? If so, why wasn't the entire contract included?

The 350 pages referenced is a typo from MCSS, a revised version has been attached in BoardDocs.

5.21 Playground Replacement at Chaparral Elementary to Dave Bang Associates Inc.

Can you provide more details about the condition of the current playground that led to the decision to replace it?

The current playground was originally built in 2007 with the school. This makes the playground 17 years old and currently several parts of the playground are caution taped off due to the part(s) being broken and replacement parts being difficult to obtain due to the age of the playground.

Did we obtain more than 1 quote?

Yes, we received two quotes with the vendor Dave Bang being the cheaper option.

Is there warranty, if so, what is covered and for how long?

Warranty information attached.

Will this be done over the summer?

Yes, this project will take place over the summer and might carry over into next school year. The district is working with Chaparral to make sure alternative options are available if construction goes into next year.

5.22 Agreement & Amendment between Higley Unified School District and Verizon Wireless

Please pull this out of consent

This will be moved to an action item.

Can you please tell me if the cell tower already exists on the property at Sossaman or will it be installed?

The cell phone tower does not currently exist it will be installed pending board approval.

6.2 Presentation of Benefits for Fiscal Year 24-25

What were the main factors that led to the decision to transition to a self-insured/funded model? Please review the two PowerPoints attached.

How does the district anticipate benefiting from this change compared to the previous fully insured model?

What are the expected cost savings or financial benefits associated with moving to a self-insured/funded model?

How will the district manage the financial risks associated with self-insurance?

Are there any specific financial goals or targets the district aims to achieve through this transition?

How does the district plan to mitigate risks associated with self-insurance, such as unexpected high claims or fluctuations in healthcare costs?

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ff3tXAoi9kyW7IHGTsBn9P1pn5bywUiX/view?usp=drive link](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ff3tXAoi9kyW7IHGTsBn9P1pn5bywUiX/view?usp=drive_link)

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1W8K7vmn-kYDdYPrXxsWv0X2m49Mz7GvO/view?usp=drive link](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1W8K7vmn-kYDdYPrXxsWv0X2m49Mz7GvO/view?usp=drive_link)

6.3 1st Read EBC Emergencies

I'm glad to see this being added and am surprised that this wasn't already included. What prompted this change? Was it due to legislation?

Will this account for the different needs of students with disabilities, including those with sensory, mobility, or communication impairments, etc.?

The change to policy is to align with legislative language update. We always had considerations for special needs during emergency operations. The expectation is that each case manager creates an "individual emergency response plan" that aligns with their site response plan for each student that would require unique or additional assistance. This would include our cross-cat programs, students in wheelchairs, visually impaired students, etc.

6.7 Review of FY2023 Classroom Spending Report

Will he be presenting just the classroom spending portion or the whole report?

The board asked that Financial Services present the Classroom Spending Report for Higley Unified School District.

6.8 Citizens Committee – Recommendation

Slide 8 and 9 are identical.

M&O Override

- Support special education programs
- Increase teacher compensation
- Provide staffing to maintain average class sizes
- Maintain and improve elementary special programs including physical education, music, and arts
- Support gifted programs and all-day kindergarten
- Provide educational resources to classrooms

What are the elementary special and gifted programs? Please list them.

The special education programs consist of all programs in the district that support and service our special education students. This includes the HUSD continuum of services consisting of paraprofessional support, inclusion, resource, cross-categorical, BEST, and private day schools.

What are these "educational resources" for the classroom?

The term "educational resources" is used to describe course materials, modules, tests, and supplies used to support the classroom.

Capital Needs & Proposed Projects

- \$12.8m - Safety, Security, and Technology Improvements
- \$25m - Essential Maintenance Project (HVAC, roofing, and other repairs)
- \$40.3m - Campus Improvement Projects (classroom expansion, renovation, and securing front offices)
- \$5m - Transportation and Buses

What are OTHER repairs?

Other repairs include weatherization/exterior painting, playground equipment, flooring, and turf/track sports fields.

Top issue for the community is Safety and Security. Technology should be separated from Safety & Security to show the true numbers. The community has the right to know what their biggest concern is going to cost compared to everything else.

The full breakdown is posted on the district website under the citizen committee webpage.

I'd like to see everything under each category listed. What exactly does each bullet entail?

The full breakdown is posted on the district website under the citizen committee webpage.