

HIGLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

2935 South Recker Road, Gilbert, Arizona 85295

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June 7, 2023 - Board Meeting Agenda Questions & Responses

Board Members-Please let the Board President know if you wish to move a consent agenda item to an action item for discussion prior to the start of the board meeting.

The Toshiba authorization has been removed from the June 7 agenda. We were not able to get a corrected invoice in time. We will submit this on the June 28 meeting.

Can we please receive what the student enrollment number at each site was at the close of the school year.

2022-2023 Year End Enrollment by School

Elementary	6621
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Bridges Elementary	757
Centennial Elementary	668
Chaparral Elementary	822
Coronado Elementary	595
Cortina Elementary	729
Gateway Pointe Elementary	765
Higley Traditional Academy	729
Power Ranch Elementary	641
San Tan Elementary	915
Middle	1888
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Cooley Middle School	870
Sossaman Middle School	1018
High	4234
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Higley High School	2136
Williams Field High School	2098
Preschool	856
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Elona P Cooley ECDC	133

Kinder Prep-Coolley	278
Kinder Prep-Sossaman	329
Sue Sossaman ECDC	116
AOI	111
Higley Virtual Academy	111
Grand Total	13710

Can we please receive the total number of staff employed at the close of the school year.

- Full time vs part time 1094 vs 383
- Certified vs support 826 vs 651
- Please do not include outside contracted staff

4.3 Personnel

I have concerns that we are hiring a [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Nothing personal to [REDACTED] just why a previous [REDACTED]?

[REDACTED] applied for, is qualified for, and accepted the position of [REDACTED] [REDACTED] I believe it to be a personal decision.

What is the [REDACTED] stipend for for [REDACTED]?

[REDACTED] \$2,000

[REDACTED] \$2,500

4.5 Ratify Payroll and Expense Vouchers-CITY WIDE PEST CONTROL, INC.

I saw this and it reminded me to ask.

Per policy EBAA-REPORTING OF HAZARDS/WARNING SYSTEMS

A. Provide notice of pesticide application during a regular school session to students, employees, and parents/guardians, given in a form reasonably calculated to provide a warning at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to such application.

B. Provide oral notification to pupils and employees during the regular school session.

C. Provide written, electronic or telephonic notification to parents or guardians at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to the application of pesticides.

-Are parents actually notified within 48 hrs. prior to application? In all the years I have been with the district, I don't remember ever receiving notification.

City Wide Pest Control does not use pesticide applications.

The district grounds department does use pesticide applications and posts notices in the front offices 48 hours prior to application. Pesticide applications are only applied before or after school and during breaks (fall, winter, spring, and summer.

-Can parents choose to keep kids at home?

Parents have the right to keep kids at home if they believe that is best.

4.5 Ratify Payroll and Expense Vouchers-FLINN SCIENTIFIC, INC.-ABO/RH BLOOD TYPING STUDENT

-What exactly was this for?

General science supplies for WFHS science.

Are they using this to do blood tests on students?

It is for kits to do blood *type* testing.

4.11 Donation Summary

-What is an Undesignated Gift?

An undesignated gift is a donation that is unspecified.

What was the gift?

A cash donation.

4.12 The Trust

-What was the cost last year and the difference between last year and this quote?

The cost last year (FY2023) was \$810,414 and that is an increase of \$225,128.

-What was the additional cost for SMS and CMS?

The approximate costs for SMS and CMS are \$137,888 for additional insurable value.

-I'm guessing this was covered by JMF in the prior years and will now be our responsibility due to refi?

JMF provided some level of insurance coverage, however the district did pay for additional coverage to meet the district standard.

-Did we get additional quotes?

The district did not get additional quotes for FY2024. Two years ago, the district conducted an independent thorough review of the district insurance coverage which was presented to the Governing Board on May 19, 2021.

Item 4.12 Authorization of Expenditure – The Trust Renewal

- Can previous year contracts be included in the supporting documentation so the Board can view and compare the changes over previous years
- And, what were the previous year(s) contract cost/expenditures
- Can you please explain what the following Liabilities entail and cover:
 - Pandemic Liability
 - The district does not have this coverage.
 - Excess Liability
 - The district has a \$10,000,000 general liability limit per occurrence, offense, or wrongful act. Excess liability insurance puts limits on each additional occurrence.
 - Commercial Crime
 - Commercial Crime coverage protects the district for internal employee offense including theft, fraud, forgery, etc.
 - PTO/Booster Club Commercial Crime
 - The district does not have this coverage.
 - Pre-Paid Public Relations Service
 - Attached is The Trust coverage agreement which goes into detail on each line item.
 - ***Honestly, it would be helpful to know more about all listed liabilities and services listed
 - Attached is The Trust coverage agreement which goes into detail on each line item.

Item 4.13 Authorization of Expenditure – Alliance (Worker’s Compensation) Renewal

- What are the previous years’ expenditure(s)/cost(s)?

See below.

4.13 Alliance

-What was the cost last year and what is the difference between the renewal?

The cost last year (FY2023) was \$392,359 and that is an increase of \$30,239.

-Did we get other quotes or just went with the same company?

We are using the same company for FY2024.

-What does the Exposure Unit 8411 stand for? I was able to look up the other 2 but couldn’t locate 8411.

8411 is coverage for district volunteers.

4.14 CDW-G Projectors

-Why are the current projectors being replaced? Is there something wrong with them?

These devices have been in service for over seven years, a lifespan that has exceeded the rated specifications in terms of durability. However, we have experienced a noticeable decline in image quality over the last two years. The decline in image quality has begun to hinder the projectors' educational use. It has reached a point where some teachers have started avoiding using them because poor image quality interferes with their teaching.

-Did we get additional quotes?

Although we did not solicit quotes from multiple vendors for the same product, we did conduct a thorough evaluation of alternatives. We requested quotes for a different projector model and display panels. Display panels, while a viable option, were significantly more expensive and did not present the same value-for-money ratio as the projector models. With the current budget constraints, this solution was chosen as the most economical while still providing a solid replacement for the ageing projectors.

4.15 Toshiba

-It states that Toshiba is the recommended vendor, recommended by who?

Toshiba is our established vendor for our toner and maintenance contract. They have proven to provide appropriate service and support for our sites, and as IT Director, I do not recommend making any change.

-Did we get additional quotes for cost comparison?

Last year, the IT department explored using Ricoh to provide this service to HUSD. Their cost was far higher than Toshiba.

-Looks like there are 451 printers being ordered, why are they being replaced? Is it due to an issue or a nice to have?

This is not a purchase for "new" printer this purchase is for servicing the 451 printers the district currently operates (includes toner, monthly maintenance, etc.).

4.17 CDW-G Student Devices 2700

-How old are the MS devices?

2 years old

-Why the need to replace?

Most devices in use at our high schools (approximately 2,600) are now out of warranty and beginning to show signs of failure. To address this issue effectively and economically, we propose a strategic refreshment plan. We intend to purchase 2,700 new Lenovo 500W devices for our middle schools, which will simultaneously allow us to reset the warranty clock for these campuses. The devices currently in use at the middle schools will then be redistributed to the high schools. This plan allows us to replace the failing high school devices and equalize the warranty periods across both high school campuses.

-Is this a need or want?

A need.

-I understand that we have the AZ Lenovo Contract, but did we get any other quotes?

No additional quotes. Our experience has indicated that pricing for specific models from the same manufacturer often remains consistent across different vendors (or marginal). This consistency is due to competition clauses set up by manufacturers to prevent price wars among distributors. Therefore, we are confident that the quote we received from CDW-G is competitive and in line with market prices. Additionally, the State of Arizona uses its leverage to negotiate State Contract pricing for the benefit of schools and other agencies and we have found that those prices are quite competitive.

4.18 CrowdStrike Network Security

-Did we get additional quotes? If so, what was the difference between them?

Three years ago, the IT Department evaluated four different cybersecurity suites. These products were evaluated primarily by comparing the capabilities of the technology against our needs as a district. CrowdStrike was found to be the best product to suit our needs.

4.19 SHI Microsoft Software

-Is this for new devices or current?

This is the support contract for our districtwide Microsoft licensing. The licenses are for all our desktops, laptops, and servers.

-What is the purpose for each of the software?

The software licensing includes the operating systems for all our PCs as well as licensing for our servers, backup storage, and other systems.

1. Azure Prepayment – these are costs associated with our cloud backup
2. Defender O365 – these are costs associated with security for Office365 for our students (\$0)
3. Defender O365 – these are costs associated with security for Office365 for our teachers and staff
4. A3 Licensing – these are costs associated with the MS operating system for our teacher and staff devices

5. A3 Licensing – these are costs associated with the MS operating system for our students (\$0)
6. A5 Licensing – these are elevated licenses for IT Staff
7. PowerBI – data visualization, automation and reporting for IT Staff
8. SQL Licenses – for data center systems
9. SQL Licenses – for standard systems
10. VSEnt – software for web applications and integrations
11. Remote Desktop – remote desktop sessions for Visions
12. Windows Server Licenses – for data center servers
13. Windows Server Licenses – for standard servers

-Did we get additional quotes?

No additional quotes. Microsoft sells their products through resellers like SHI and those resellers have little to no room to negotiate the prices that Microsoft gives to them.

4.24 IGA with EVC

-Without the Constitution, it is not clear what the contract is for, can we have the description added to the contract which should state the description of what we are agreeing to?

The constitution is also attached. This is a continuation of our agreement to be members in the East Valley Conference with Chandler and Queen Creek. Our middle school sports compete within the EVC. We renew this agreement every 5 years. Athletic directors from both Sossaman and Cooley are part of the drafting of the constitution.

The Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) between Chandler Unified School District (CUSD), Higley Unified School District (HUSD) and Queen Creek Unified School District (QCUSD) which are all members of the East Valley Conference (EVC). The EVC is the Junior High athletic league that offers 14 different sports where all three district's junior high schools compete.

This new IGA establishes the terms under which Chandler Unified School District (CUSD) would be the fiscal agent overseeing all EVC financial transactions. EVC will have its own account and yearly membership fees due. CUSD will collect the fees from each EVC school. The EVC has a clearly established constitution that specifies the rules for the EVC. The EVC constitution is reviewed yearly by the representatives for each member school.

4.24 EVC Constitution Pg 7 Section 4-Insurance

-Have we ever had an instance where the student didn't have insurance?

-What happens if they don't have insurance? The student can't participate in the sport?

We offer student insurance at a very low rate for those that do not have personal insurance. If a student cannot afford the insurance, the site will find a way to make sure the fee is covered. All student athletes are required to have insurance.

4.30 Results Based Funding 06.07.23 Eligible Names

-Why are the same people listed multiple times?

We have edited this list to show each name once.

-Is it possible to separate lists like these in the future by who is certified and who is classified?

This is the last year of results-based funding. Should results-based funding be reinstated, we can provide separate lists in the future.

5.2 ASBA

Why would the cost be so great to change policy services if our attorneys to review policies if they are already reviewing?

The estimated costs are related to the time it would take to thoroughly review the current district policies against The Trust model policies.

Why wouldn't our prepaid legal already cover this review?

The district pays an annual premium for prepaid legal services. The estimated costs are for additional usage of the district prepaid attorneys to review board policy in the scenario of a quick transition.

If we go with ASBA, Will we continue to subscribe to both policy services?

The district is intending to pay \$1,000 to The Trust for policy review as we work to transition platforms.