

For Immediate Release

Contact: Julie Miller, Public Information Specialist, 272-8600, jlb51@scasd.org

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State College Area Administration makes Educational Planner recommendation

During the Monday evening Board of School Directors meeting, district administrators recommended Brainspaces, Inc. as the educational planning firm for the upcoming high school project. This step comes after a months-long process of interviews and reviews of the four originally selected potential firms. A Request for Proposal was issued in early July, followed by interviews in August by two district teams. The first team was composed of central office administrators and representatives of the Board of Directors. The second interview team was formed of teachers, curriculum coordinators, high school and Career and Technical (CTC) administrators. Following public interviews with three firms, Brainspaces, Inc., Fanning/Howey, and Frank Locker (Architects of Achievement removed themselves from consideration), the two interview teams discussed the options at length and chose Brainspaces, Inc., led by Amy Yurko, to be the recommended firm. The Board did not take action on this during the meeting, but had the opportunity to discuss the options at the table. The board will have an opportunity to further discuss this during their first meeting in October, and it is expected they will take action to approve Brainspaces, Inc. and the contract for services at the end of October.

Educational planners collaborate with the architects, educators and the learning community to design and enhance facilities that support learning. They help to transform educational goals into learning spaces. Brainspaces, Inc. has 25 years of experience planning and designing learning spaces. Their work has focused on public, private, domestic and international school projects. They earned the 2011 Council of Educational Facility Planners International (CEFPI) International Planner of the Year award, and also the 2010 CEFPI National Planner of the Year award, among many other project specific recognitions.

Amy Yurko and her staff of experts with Brainspaces, Inc. will be expected to work very closely with Crabtree Rohrbaugh Architects and their team as both groups work together to design and build the learning spaces best suited for the district's needs. The educational planners outlined a process that would be approximately seven months long.