



**HIGLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
2935 South Recker Road, Gilbert, Arizona 85295  
(480) 279-7000 • [www.husd.org](http://www.husd.org)

July 23, 2024 - Board Meeting Agenda Questions & Responses

## **5.6 Approval of Overnight and/or Out-of-State Staff Travel**

I've mentioned this before and will say it again: we need to be mindful of our travel expenses. While I fully support professional development, spending \$7,000 for two people to attend a conference seems excessive, especially when it involves taxpayer money.

Please note the fund, which is Indirect Costs, a cash-controlled fund.

## **5.14 Approval of AZ CTE Curriculum Consortium Agreement between Pima County JTED and Higley Unified School District – Please pull as Informational Item.**

Since a vote needs to take place on this item, it will be moved to action item 7.5 where it can be discussed.

I believe we should be provided with more information on such items before requesting approval, just as we do with other curricula.

Why do we have an IGA with Pima JTED/the consortium when we already have an IGA with EVIT? Isn't this something we can get with EVIT?

This is an ongoing partnership that we have been using for at least 8 years. The IGA is with PIMA JTED because they are the LEA (Local Education Agency) for this organization. The AZ Curriculum Consortium was formed in partnership with the AZ Department of ED to provide curriculum resources that are specific to CTE State Standards. This is a partnership with all CTE programs and CTEDs throughout the state. EVIT also subscribes to the consortium as well.

What exactly are we getting from PJTED that we are not getting from EVIT? I'd like to know more about this, please. (<https://www.ctecaz.org/about/>)

The curriculum consortium provides CTE Standards aligned resources for teachers including lesson plans, standards-based assessments and the blueprints and instructional frameworks that are aligned with ADE CTE Standards. These materials help teacher provide consistent training to students that align to the State CTE Assessments that they take at the end of their programs.

How are the annual Consortium membership fees determined, and what is the specific fee for Higley USD based on its student count?

Membership fees are determined by the school districts prior year duplicated CTE

enrollment at each high school. Last year the fee for HUSD was approximately \$6,955.00.

What type of data will need to be shared between Higley USD and Pima JTED? Are there any specific data privacy and security measures required to protect student information?

The only data that is shared between HUSD and the consortium is our duplicate enrollment numbers (no student specific data) and the email addresses of teachers so that the teachers can access the resources.

Are there any available grants or funding opportunities specifically for Consortium members?

This membership for our teachers is paid for through the AZ CTE Priority Grant.

### **5.16 Authorization of Expenditure – Renaissance (DnA & FastBridge)-Please pull**

This consent agenda item will be moved to 7.6 action item.

Please explain exactly how DnA and Fastbridge is used.

DnA is an assessment platform that allows teachers to create rigorous, academic standards-based, assessments that can be administered online or paper/pencil. Additionally, it provides in-depth reports on student performance on those assessments, including standards and item type performance, which teachers can use to adjust instruction to better meet the needs of students. We also use their AASA Mimic Benchmarks to evaluate district-wide gaps and trends in ELA, Math, and Science to better inform us for Professional Learning and Supplemental Materials needs.

FastBridge is a screening and diagnostic tool that identifies students in need of additional academic support in reading or math skills, pinpoints the specific skill area of need, and allows for teachers to monitor student progress toward learning targets in the specific skill area of need as teachers provide appropriate academic interventions. It is approved by the Arizona Department of Education to meet the screening and progress monitoring requirements as specified for Arizona's Move on When Reading statutes.

### **5.19 Authorization of Expenditure – School Bus Cameras to Reading Truck**

Was this included in the Bond measure as well? Will all these items be installed immediately, or will they be placed in a warehouse (added to our inventory) for future use?

No this was not included in the proposed bond. These items will be installed immediately as this is a safety enhancement to the current bus fleet.

## **5.21 Approval of Estoppel Agreement-Chaparral**

## **5.22 Approval of Estoppel Agreement-Transportation**

Is money earned from the energy they produce? If so, does that money go to a third-party company rather than HUSD? It seems like the third-party company might keep the money in exchange for maintaining the panels. I'd like some background information to determine if this arrangement makes financial sense.

The Estoppel is not changing the current lease agreement (which is attached for reference).

The current agreement is a performance guarantee agreement in which the company provides a guaranteed annual kWh (kilowatt-hour) for each year of the agreement. The company also owns, repairs, and monitors the equipment to ensure it is producing the guaranteed amount of electricity.

It appears that HUSD also does not own the steel covers that the panels sit on, which is unusual. There is supposed to be a copy of an agreement (RESPA), but it is missing. This agreement might provide more details. Since we don't own the panels, are we losing potential revenue?

HUSD does not own the equipment and again the board agenda is not changing the current agreement in place, rather it is formalizing the sale to another company (attached is the original agreement).

## **5.23 Approval of Cooperative Vendors Purchasing Threshold**

Therapy Rehabilitation Services is listed at \$300k. This is the same service mentioned on 5.18, but why does it show \$127k for 5.18, but this says \$300k?

Consent agenda 5.18 should have been removed and the correct listing is consent agenda 5.23 (now 5.20) which lists Therapy Rehabilitation Services at an estimated cost of \$300k for FY2025. The original agenda item for \$127k is for services for students we know at this point in time and does not allow flexibility for potential future expenditures for students identified later.

## **5.18 Approval for Contracted School Psychologist**

5.18 is included in the Cooperative Vendors approval. Now item 5.20. The separate agenda item has been removed.

Therapy Rehabilitation Services will provide a School Psychologist to conduct special education evaluations for students attending the Cooley Early Childhood Development Center. Are they evaluating all preschool students or only those with special needs?

School Psychologists only evaluate students with a current special education eligibility due for their triennial reevaluation or students with a suspected disability (through the District's child find obligation) after obtaining informed parent consent.

Why does the fee schedule reference PVUSD instead of HUSD?

The new consent agenda item is 5.20 and the District is utilizing a SAVE cooperative contract initiated by PVUSD to secure the above-mentioned vendor.