



# Santa Barbara County Education Office

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Susan C. Salcido, Superintendent of Schools

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## **Resolution No. 2508**

### **Emergency Resolution**

### **Award of Contract without Bidding and Advertising**

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to California Public Contract Code §20113, the Board may, by unanimous resolution, by vote of members present, determine that an emergency exists wherein certain repairs, alterations, work, or improvements are necessary to permit the continuation of existing programs and services, or to avoid danger to life or property; and

**WHEREAS**, a resolution regarding such circumstances permits the Santa Barbara County Education Office (SBCEO) to make a contract for the performance of labor and furnishing of materials or supplies for the purpose of addressing the existing situation without advertising for or inviting bids; and

**WHEREAS**, the emergency is described in detail below:

In early October 2024 an unusual odor appeared in the Fiscal Services office on the Cathedral Oaks campus that raised concerns with the air quality in the space. The carpets in the office had been recently cleaned so there were considerations on the impact the solution and amount of water used may have had on the carpet and the air. As a result, initial air testing was conducted, and a preliminary treatment took place while test results were pending. The test results indicated that there were particulates in the air consistent with a water intrusion and at levels that would prevent staff from safely working in the space. A second air quality test was conducted after the treatment which indicated elevated levels of particulates in the air persisted.

The source of the water intrusion must be investigated to eliminate all potential sources (i.e. radiators, adjacent restrooms, etc.) and prevent future incidents. This process includes the removal and cleaning of office cubicles, the inspection and cleaning of the radiators, accessing the plumbing in the restroom through the wall, and the removal and replacement of the carpets. Additionally, the office will need to be decontaminated and treated once the source is identified and addressed. Due to the duration of this work, the Fiscal Services staff must be relocated to a more permanent space. There is currently no available office space on the Cathedral Oaks campus so modular offices will need to be placed and operated on the property.

The Fiscal Services staff have been relocated to conference rooms and available workspaces in other department offices since initial testing began. Staff have also

worked remotely when feasible. However, these arrangements are not sustainable long-term, and the department is entering a busy time of the year for processing and reporting. The length of the formal bidding process would delay investigating and addressing the water intrusion and prevent the Fiscal Services office from reopening for several months. This would prevent the staff from effectively and efficiently conducting services vital to the daily operations of the SBCEO and could also delay and/or discontinue services to students and families throughout the county.

**WHEREAS**, in order to promptly continue essential programming and services, and to avoid further health risks or continued property loss, it is essential to address the water intrusion and air quality in the Fiscal Services office; and

**WHEREAS**, the estimated cost to resolve this emergency is expected to exceed \$15,000; and

**WHEREAS**, this resolution does not set aside any bonding or security otherwise required by law;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Santa Barbara County Board of Education declares an emergency and, with approval of the County Superintendent of Schools, authorizes the SBCEO Administrator of Internal Services to enter into a contract or contracts for repairs to the Fiscal Services office and the relocation of Fiscal Services staff without advertising or inviting bids that may include additional work required by local and state agencies.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the Santa Barbara County Board of Education on **November 14, 2024**, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

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Judith Frost, President  
Santa Barbara County Board of Education

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Dr. Susan Salcido, Clerk/Secretary  
Santa Barbara County Board of Education