



## MEMORANDUM

**To:** Dr. R.J. Gravel  
Board of Education

**From:** Ms. Vicki Tarver

**Date:** Monday, January 12, 2026

**Re:** Contracts Greater than \$35,000

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Board of Education adopts a budget each year that defines an approved level of spending for each program and account number within the general ledger. Before purchasing, at least two administrators review the request and ensure that the purchase is within the budget parameters approved by the Board and applicable Board Policies. When the purchase of items exceeds \$35,000, the purchase is presented to the Board of Education for final approval.

### BACKGROUND

[Board Policy 4:60 - Purchases and Contracts](#) defines the school district's purchasing and contracting standards. These standards ensure that funds are only utilized for intended purposes, within the budget parameters approved by the Board of Education, and in compliance with state and federal laws and relevant board policies.

It has been the historical practice of the Finance Committee and Board of Education to present new large purchases to the Board of Education as part of its Discussion/Action agenda. For example, this past year, the administration presented annual capital projects, a modernized phone system, new driver education vehicles, and the implementation of SchoolLinks. After an item has been given and approved, subsequent renewals are built into the budget. When items result in an annual expenditure greater than \$35,000, they are presented to the Finance Committee for review and approval by the Board of Education as part of its Consent Agenda.



**Tuition-Based Enrollment Agreement with Spectrum Center Lake County**

A student's IEP team has determined that it is necessary for them to receive special education and related services in a day school placement. The location of this placement will be the Spectrum Center Lake County, a special education school located in Lindenhurst, Illinois. The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) has approved this school to serve Illinois students with disabilities in accordance with 23 Illinois Administrative Code 401. Additionally, the Illinois Purchase Care Review Board has negotiated the costs of service and set daily rates for all nonpublic special education schools serving Illinois students with disabilities in accordance with 89 Illinois Administrative Code 900. It should be noted that the School District will receive reimbursement from ISBE for a portion of the cost of this placement, minus two times the School District's per capita tuition rate (which is currently \$26,573).

**Table 1**  
**Contract Details**

Vendor		Type of Agreement	Start Date	End Date	
Spectrum Center Lake County		One-Year ISBE Nonpublic Facility Placement Contract	December 9, 2025	July 23, 2026	
Expenditure Details				Purchase Considerations	
Program	Account Number	Total Cost	Budgeted?	New Purchase?	Bid Required
Special Education Placements	EAPL6706	\$115,447 per Student	Yes	No	No



**Tuition-Based Enrollment Agreement with Wallace Academy**

A student's IEP team has determined that it is necessary for them to receive special education and related services in a day school placement. The location of this placement will be the Wallace Academy, a special education school located in Hoffman Estates, Illinois. The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) has approved this school to serve Illinois students with disabilities in accordance with 23 Illinois Administrative Code 401. Additionally, the Illinois Purchase Care Review Board has negotiated the costs of service and set daily rates for all nonpublic special education schools serving Illinois students with disabilities in accordance with 89 Illinois Administrative Code 900. It should be noted that the School District will receive reimbursement from ISBE for a portion of the cost of this placement, minus two times the School District's per capita tuition rate (which is currently \$26,573).

**Table 2**  
**Contract Details**

Vendor		Type of Agreement	Start Date	End Date	
Wallace Academy		One-Year ISBE Nonpublic Facility Placement Contract	December 10, 2025	July 2, 2026	
Expenditure Details				Purchase Considerations	
Program	Account Number	Total Cost	Budgeted?	New Purchase?	Bid Required
Special Education Placements	EAPL6706	\$74,688 per Student	Yes	No	No



**Tuition-Based Enrollment Agreement with High School Road**

A student's IEP team has determined that it is necessary for them to receive special education and related services in a day school placement. The location of this placement will be the High School Road, a special education school located in Mt. Prospect, Illinois. The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) has approved this school to serve Illinois students with disabilities in accordance with 23 Illinois Administrative Code 401. Additionally, the Illinois Purchase Care Review Board has negotiated the costs of service and set daily rates for all nonpublic special education schools serving Illinois students with disabilities in accordance with 89 Illinois Administrative Code 900. It should be noted that the School District will receive reimbursement from ISBE for a portion of the cost of this placement, minus two times the School District's per capita tuition rate (which is currently \$26,573).

**Table 3**  
**Contract Details**

Vendor		Type of Agreement	Start Date	End Date	
High School Road		One-Year ISBE Nonpublic Facility Placement Contract	December 15, 2025	July 17, 2026	
Expenditure Details				Purchase Considerations	
Program	Account Number	Total Cost	Budgeted?	New Purchase?	Bid Required
Special Education Placements	EAPL6706	\$49,461 per Student	Yes	No	No

**Annual Software License Agreement for VMware vSphere Foundation**

The Technology Services Team has utilized VMware Sphere Foundation to optimize and manage data center performance since December 2004. VMware enables the district to virtualize its server infrastructure, decreasing its need for physical servers, while providing a more stable environment for mission-critical services and applications.

**Table 4**  
**Contract Details**

Vendor		Type of Agreement	Start Date	End Date	
CDW-G		12-Month Software License Renewal	January 13, 2026	December 31, 2026	
Expenditure Details				Purchase Considerations	
Program	Account Number	Total Cost	Budgeted?	New Purchase?	Bid Required
Technology Services	EATO3160	\$61,018	Yes	No	No



**RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Board of Education approve the contracts presented in Tables 1-4 on Monday, January 12, 2026, as part of the consent agenda.