

BOARD MEMORANDUM

- TO: DR. MICHELLE CAVAZOS
- FROM: CHRIS CASAREZ/KYLE JONES
- CC: BOARD OF TRUSTEES DR. ISMAEL GONZALEZ III CRYSTAL MATERN DEBORAH GARZA DR. MICHAEL NORRIS PENNY ARMSTRONG
- DATE: Monday February 24, 2025

SUBJECT: Consider Approval of Contract Renewal for RFP # ERFY26-01 Internet Access Services

PRIORITIES

 PRIORITY 1: EXCEPTIONAL STUDENT PERFORMANCE

 N/A

 PRIORITY 2: HIGH PERFORMING AND ENGAGED WORKFORCE

 N/A

 PRIORITY 3: QUALITY SERVICE AND IMPACTFUL COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

 N/A

 PRIORITY 4: EFFICIENT AND EFFECTIVE DISTRICT AND CAMPUS OPERATIONS

 4.3 Ensure Strategic Alignment of Resources

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Beginning July 1, 2025, a new E-rate cycle will begin. Under the Universal Service Administrative Company Federal Funding, Category One supported services include the services needed to support broadband connectivity to schools and libraries. Eligible Category One services are listed in the entries for data transmission and/or Internet access. This category consists of the services that provide broadband to eligible locations including data links that connect multiple points, services used to connect eligible locations to the Internet, and services that provide basic conduit access to the Internet. The E-rate filing deadline is Wednesday March 26, 2024 @ 10:59 PM CST. The Original Request for Proposals was received on February 22, 2023 and was recommended by the committee, and approved by the School Board, for a three-year pricing agreement that came with a significant savings. The previous contract was for \$77,760 annually, while the current proposal was for \$36,000 annually with a three-year commitment. This would be the final year of the agreement and we will be required to go out to RFP again at this time next year.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Committee recommends to approve the renewal of the third and final year for Spectrum as the Internet Access Services Provider for E-Rate cycle 26.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

\$36,000 for 2025-26. By following the strict guidelines and timetables of the E-Rate program, the District has traditionally seen an 80% portion of our internet bill and all related costs paid by this Federal program. Funding amounts are based on poverty levels.

BOARD RELATED POLICY:

CH (LEGAL) CV (LEGAL) CVE (LEGAL)

ACTION ITEM SUGGESTED MOTION (if applicable):

The Board accept the committee recommendation of awarding Spectrum a Contract Renewal to provide Internet Services in accordance with RFP# ERFY26-01 beginning July 1, 2025, for a period of one year.