Livonia Public Schools

District Services

Date: November 5, 2026

To: Andrea Oquist, Superintendent

From: Jeff Burnside, Director of Operations and District Services

Re: Approval of Thrive Track Bid

I would like to add the Thrive Track Site Work Bid to the agenda for the November 9, 2026, Committee of the Whole meeting.

Background

Livonia Public Schools received a $750,000 grant from the Michigan Department of Education, with the assistance of State Senator Dayna Polehanki, to develop the Thrive Track Healthy Living Skills for Independence Project for the Skill Center at Garfield Community School.

The purpose of this project is to provide students with a safe, accessible, and engaging outdoor space that promotes physical fitness, independence, and social interaction. The project includes an accessible asphalt walking track, outdoor fitness equipment, and gathering areas designed to accommodate students with varying abilities and mobility needs.

To maximize the available grant funding, the district is approaching the project in two components. The first component includes the site work necessary to prepare the area for the Thrive Track and fitness equipment. The second component will include the purchase and installation of the outdoor fitness equipment.

Recommendation

Bids for the Thrive Track site work were opened on Wednesday, October 21, 2026.

The Project Team recommends approval of the lowest responsible bid, submitted by Cortis Brothers Trucking and Excavating in the amount of **$455,200, with an approximate 7% construction contingency of $32,000, for a total authorization of $487,200.**

This recommendation covers the site work portion of the project, including construction of the asphalt walking track and interior surface, resurfacing of the existing basketball court, and planting of new trees. Approval will allow the district to move forward with the contractor and begin securing the necessary City permits and approvals.

The overall project is funded through the $750,000 state grant, which will also support professional design and architectural services, along with necessary ground and construction testing.

The outdoor fitness equipment will be competitively bid separately. Working with Foresite Design, we are developing a bid package that will include individual unit pricing for the equipment. This approach will allow the district to evaluate available options, maximize the amount of fitness equipment and use of the available space, and ensure the total project cost remains within the $750,000 grant allocation.

Once the competitive bidding process is complete, we will bring a separate recommendation to the Board for the purchase and installation of the fitness equipment.

Please include this item on the upcoming agenda. Thank you for your consideration.

Attachment:

Cc: Board of Education

JB/AS