

RESOLUTION 10-1-LCRB

**Bid Exemption from Competitive Bidding
For Purchase of Furniture, Related Design and
Installation Services**

This resolution is for approval of use of Class Special Procurements for furniture and related design and installation services.

Background: The Multnomah Education Service District undertook the move of the agency headquarters to our current location on Airport Way in 1989. As part of the process of relocating MESD operations, the MESD Board went through a selection process to establish a new agency standard for furniture systems. Through this selection process, the board established that the Steelcase line of furniture systems would be the agency standard and would be used in the MESD headquarters whenever possible.

For the last 20 years the MESD had been using the Steelcase line to accommodate the furniture needs for the agency. We have found the product to be versatile and of high quality. Most importantly, we have found the product to continue to be of high value as we have been able to “piggyback” on contracts awarded by other public agencies for the procurement of these products at competitive prices.

Recent developments have left the MESD unable to “piggyback” on to other public contracts. In meeting with the Steelcase representative and our local supplier, we have a high degree of confidence that the MESD can continue to easily acquire the Steelcase products, and the associated design and installation support, in a pricing structure that will continue to provide the MESD with a good value for this product line. To maintain this ability, the Local Contract Review Board must enact a “Class Special Procurements” resolution for furniture and related design and installation services.

The Superintendent recommends approval of this resolution:

WHEREAS, most of the furniture in the Ainsworth building and much of the furniture at other Multnomah Education Service District sites have been standardized on the Steelcase brand of furniture for over 20 years; and

WHEREAS, there is no known contract for Steelcase furniture that meets the statutory requirements for MESD to be able to “piggyback” MESD purchases for furniture, related design and installation services; and

WHEREAS, there are several existing contracts for various lines of Steelcase furniture which do not meet statutory requirements but which will provide lower pricing than MESD could obtain through its own bidding processes; and

WHEREAS, there is limited competition in the Portland market from firms which have experience with the design and installation of Steelcase furniture.

NOW BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that Multnomah Education Service District Local Contract Review Board finds that the approval of the use of Class Special Procurements for furniture and related design and installation services is unlikely to encourage favoritism in the awarding of public contracts and is reasonably expected to result in substantial cost savings to MESD; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that MESD shall determine and use the most cost effective contracts available for the lines of Steelcase furniture required for each project; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that MESD shall enter into furniture and related design and installation services contracts which are cost effective and provide for skilled and reliable services.