

Weber School District

Technical Services

Memo

To: Superintendent Gina Butters, Weber School District Board of Education
From: Dr. Jennifer Boyer-Thurgood, Technical Services Director
CC: Dr. Robert Petersen, Dax Teuscher
Date: June 6, 2023
Re: Purchase Request

Improving classroom audio systems for increased student engagement, learning, and safety is a Weber School District priority. Weber School District has contracted with Audio Enhancement for these improvements. Together the Technical Services Department and Audio Enhancement determine what is needed in each school and work together to design each system. Technical network elements such as power over ethernet (PoE) Data Switches, network racks, and uninterruptable power supplies (UPSs) are purchased on installed by Technical Services. Audio Enhancement hardware is purchased and stored by Technical Services as needed. Audio Enhancement systems are installed by Audio Enhancement or their contractors. Technical Services aides with any problem-solving during the installation process and then maintains the systems after installation.

When purchasing Audio Enhancement systems school principles and district leaders have two options, 1) stand alone classroom systems that improve the audio in just one classroom and do not connect to a complete school intercom system or 2) classroom systems that can connect to a school-wide system and provide the "safe alert" function in case of an emergency. During the 22-23 school year three elementary schools, Uintah, Bates, and Lomond View purchased Audio Enhancement classroom systems. These system are classroom-based and not designed to connect to the full school intercom system and do not have the "safe alert" capabilities. This hardware was received by Tech Services, but has not yet been installed.

After an evaluation by Tech Services and Audio Enhancement it was determined that these three schools could greatly benefit from the school-wide system. This project is estimated to cost a total of \$946,993.58. Audio Enhancement has agreed to allow Technical Services to return the classroom systems that were purchased for a full a refund in the form of a credit. This credit is \$97,529.92.

At this time I am requesting board approval for the following from ESSR II funds to complete this project.

Audio Enhancement full intercom systems – \$849,463.66

Thank you for your consideration of this purchase. As always I appreciate your continued support of technology in the district. If I can provide you with further clarification or answers to questions, please contact me at 801-476-7979.

Thank you.



Dr. Jennifer Boyer-Thurgood
Director of Technology