



NORTH SLOPE BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Robyn Burke, President
Members of the School Board

THROUGH: David Vadiveloo, Chief School Administrator/Superintendent ^{DsV}_{DsV}

FROM: Reginald Santos, Director of Information Technology

DATE: December 6, 2023

SUBJECT: **Contracts over \$10K** **Memo No. SB24-086**
Bridge Data/Exchange Email Cloud Migration (Informational Item)

2020-2025 NSBSD STRATEGIC PLAN

4.2 Financial Stewardship: Ensure financial management based on what is best for our students.

4.5 Technology: Leverage technology as a tool to facilitate learning, communication, and collaboration.

NSBSD Policy Manual:

BP 3300 Expenditures/Expending Authority: The Superintendent or designee may purchase supplies, materials, and equipment in accordance with the law. The Superintendent or designee shall not authorize any proposed expenditure that exceeds the major budget classification allowance against which the expenditure is the proper charge unless an amount sufficient to cover the purchase is available in the budget for transfer.

BP 3310, Purchasing Procedures: The School Board desires to ensure that maximum value is received for money spent by the district and that records are kept in accordance with the law. The Superintendent or designee may issue and sign purchase orders.

BP 3311, Bids: All purchases in the amount of \$20,000 or more shall be based, when possible, on three competitive bids. The Superintendent or designee shall establish procedures to ensure that formal advertised bids are solicited for purchases over \$50,000.

BP 3312, Contracts: The Superintendent or designee may enter into contracts and memoranda of agreement on behalf of the district. All contracts and memorandums of agreement with a dollar value of \$10,000 or greater must be approved by the School Board.

Issue Summary:

Bridge Data will help the North Slope Borough School District to migrate the district Exchange Email system to the cloud.

Background:

Bridge Data Solutions, in consultation with the North Slope Borough School District, has developed a comprehensive plan for migrating the district's on-premise Exchange email system to the cloud. This initiative is driven by the need for enhanced business continuity, highlighted

by the recent subsea fiber cut event on June 11th. The incident, which led to widespread internet outages, severely impacted the district's email communications, as the on-premise Exchange server located in Utqiagvik, Alaska, became inaccessible to the rest of the schools.

The migration to the cloud aims to address these vulnerabilities by ensuring that the email system remains resilient and accessible under various circumstances. By transitioning to a cloud-based solution, email services will be reachable through alternative internet sources, such as Starlink satellite, LTE, or 5G cellular data, thus ensuring continuous communication for the school district regardless of local infrastructure disruptions. This change is crucial for maintaining uninterrupted educational and administrative functions within the district.

The migration project, estimated at \$24,750, ensures resilience of email services. Bridge Data Solutions will bill the district based on actual hours worked, rather than the full project estimate, offering a cost-effective solution to enhance communication infrastructure.

Funding Source and Contract Amount:

Information Technology Supplies/Materials/Media account code: 100.200.355.000.410

Account balance: \$31,315.69

Compliance with BP 3311:

This is a sole-source procurement due to its unique capability and compatibility.

Proposed Motion:

No motion is required. This is an informational Item as the purchases of supplies, materials, equipment, and services are within the discretion of the Chief School Administrator or designee.

Signature: DS Vadiveloo
DS Vadiveloo (Jan 6, 2024 10:41 AKST)

Email: david.vadiveloo@nsbsd.org

Signature:

Email: