

## MEMORANDUM

---

**TO:** NWABSD Board of Education  
Members

**DATE:** August 11, 2024

**NUMBER:** Worksession VIII.

**FR:** Office of the Superintendent.

**SUBJECT:** a. Capital Projects Report

---

Capital Projects Managers, Dena Strait and Kathy Christy report on the following:

**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND EARLY DEVELOPMENT (DEED):** The Alaska Legislature and Governor Dunleavy have passed their FY25 capital budget which includes funding for two NWABSD projects.

### **Major Maintenance**

Davis-Ramoth K-12 School Renewal has a total project amount of \$9,596,772, including a local share of \$1,884,834. Approval from the Board is requested for approval of a design budget to move the project forward for construction to begin in 2025. This project is primarily a mechanical and electrical upgrades project that can be bid at 100% construction documents. DEED's procurement requirements do not allow alternative procurements such as design-build and others that involve selection committees when projects are bid at 100% documentation.

HVAC Controls Upgrade, 8 Sites with a total project cost of \$9,838,153, including a local share of \$1,967,631, was also approved and is pending award. Preliminary design efforts are underway and will continue into the fall for an anticipated 2025 start to construction.

### **AHFC TEACHER HOUSING:**

**Kivalina** – Project closeout documentation submitted to AHFC. Closeout is pending

**Selawik** – Inspection completed and submitted to AHFC. Cost certification has been requested.

**Buckland** – The Maintenance Department received materials in Buckland in July. Housing Alaskans: A Public-Private Partnership (HAPPP) may be able to provide additional funding for the Buckland teacher housing project. Last year the typical grant averaged about \$120,000. HAPPP has not yet received its 2024 grant budget.

Noatak - A Resolution to apply for AHFC SFY25 grant funds for two duplexes is in front of the JMCC and the board for the August meetings.

### **DEED PROJECTS**

#### **KIVALINA REPLACEMENT SCHOOL**

**Construction:** Construction contract has been completed. ASRC returned in July for warranty work which included a few exterior items that could not be corrected over the winter.

**Percent for Art:** Kevin Smith installed the large aerial view of Kivalina in July. Contracts for three additional artworks are in process. The final artist is working on a conceptual design for approval by the community. DEED will allow closeout of the grant prior to completion of artwork. The District is to hold the art funding in a dedicated account. It is anticipated the production of artwork will be completed in FY 25. Kathy Christy continues to support the art component of this project.

**Grant Closeout:** Although construction is complete, project closeout is an extended process requiring several months. The majority of the documentation required by DEED has been

submitted, but a few are still in progress. This includes the final project accounting and update of the preventative maintenance program by SERRC.

There will be remaining funds in the project budget. DEED funding provides 80% of the project funds. The balance of local share of funding might be reallocated after the project is complete. The Borough attorney has agreed it may be possible to reallocate to other capital projects. The Kivalina project would need to be closed out before funds could be reallocated. Project closeout has been delayed by SERRC.

**Warranty and Punchlist Items:** Although delayed by weather ASRC completed exterior punchlist items by the end of July. There is an ongoing issue with the UV disinfection unit of the waste water treatment system. The supplier, the District and the design engineer are working together to resolve the issue. DEC has been kept informed and the discharge system and reports are still acceptable to DEC

**FY-19 BOROUGH LEGISLATIVE GRANT** – The Borough is providing pass-through state funding for two District projects.

#### **Kivalina Vehicle Garage**

Garage is in use and the heating system has been installed and is functional.

#### **Buckland HVAC Upgrade**

In January 2023 the Board approved the award contract for Phase I of the Buckland HVAC Upgrade Project in the amount of \$845,136 which was issued to Sturgeon Electric. This phase replaced the existing electric controls in the building with direct digital controls for the air handling units and main pumps. It also installed variable frequency drives on various pumps and motors. This work was completed in October 2023.

In fall 2023, the Denali Commission awarded a grant in the amount of \$1,041,860 to the District for additional HVAC work at Buckland, now known as Phase II. This work is in process and roughly 80% complete. Work includes replacement of baseboard and thermostats, ventilation controls, completion of DDC controls for the entire school, pipe insulation, more efficient pumps, flush and replacement of heating liquid throughout, fan replacement, and installation of ventilation hoods and dampers.

District has a grant application for Buckland Boiler Replacement, the final phase for this effort, which includes boiler flue and boiler replacement, into the Denali Commission. The application was submitted in mid-April and awards are to be announced in mid to late August. Due to the late funding announcement from the Denali Commission, Capital Project Manager is preparing an application to be submitted to DEED for this same project before September 1<sup>st</sup>.

#### **SELAWIK & NOORVIK EMERGENCY FIRE ALARM SYSTEM**

The fire alarm system in Selawik has been down since its failure over the winter break. There are no replacement parts for the old, outdated fire alarm system. The Board has approved procurement for replacement of the fire alarm panel and system and the delegation of contracting authority to the Superintendent. Noorvik Fire Alarm replacement has been added to the solicitation, but award is dependent on available Borough funding, which is being requested this month. DEED procurement requirements are being utilized to secure potential future reimbursement. The Administration rebid the project this summer, award is pending and should be finalized by the August board meetings, The Selawik portion of the Borough funds will count toward the required local match for the Davis-Ramoth DEED project.

## **FUTURE CIP PROJECTS**

**DISTRICTWIDE FIRE SYSTEM REPAIR AND REPLACEMENT** – This project will be submitted for FY26 DEED funding per the Board's June direction on the FY26 6-Year CIP list. The funds spent now may be used as the match for the potential future grant. Schools included are; Ambler, Noorvik, Buckland, June Nelson Elementary, KMHS, and Shungnak. Funding for design efforts, intended to help improve the DEED application scores, was approved in March 2024. Capital Projects Manager is moving design and DEED FY26 application forward.

**DEERING K-12 SCHOOL REPLACEMENT SCHOOL** – Construction of new school is dependent on funding, and the schedule of new DOT airport road. Given the cost and scoring of projects ahead of Deering it may be several years before this project is funded. The community was visited by the Superintendent and Capital Projects Manager in April and by the Capital Projects Manager and the Project Architect in May. Capital Projects Manager is preparing an FY26 DEED CIP application based on the Board's June direction. A fall site visit is planned to review the submitted grant documentation and continue moving the project forward.

**Buckland Boiler Replacement** – This project will be submitted to DEED for FY26 CIP funding prior to September 1<sup>st</sup> per the Board's June direction.

**OTHER POTENTIAL MAJOR MAINTENANCE PROJECTS** – Project efforts other than those noted above are dependent on Board direction on the FY26 6-year CIP list.

**DEED FY26 CIP Grant Award Priorities** – Design and documentation efforts to support FY26 DEED applications is nearing completion and continues to be incorporated into the applications due by September 1, 2024.

A Final FY26 6-year CIP list has been provided to JMCC as an action item for finalization and recommendations to Board.

## **AUGUST 26 BOARD ACTION ITEMS**

Memo 25 - 010 Finalization and Approval of FY26 6-Year CIP list

Memo 25 - 011 Award of Design Contract to Burkhart Croft Architects for Davis-Ramoth K-12 Renovations

Memo 25 - 012 Approval to Apply for AHFC Rural Professional Housing (Teacher Housing) Grants for Noatak

## MEMORANDUM

---

**TO:** NWABSD Board of Education  
Committee Members

**DATE:** August 27, 2024

**NUMBER:** 25-010

**FROM:** Office of the Superintendent

**SUBJECT:** Approval of Final FY-26  
Six-Year Capital  
Improvement Plan

### **ABSTRACT**

Department of Education and Early Development (DEED) School Construction Grant applications for FY 2026 are due September 2, 2024. Board approval of the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) priorities is a requirement of the application process.

### **ISSUE**

At issue is Board approval of the final projects for the Six-Year Capital Improvement Plan for FY 2026.

### **BACKGROUND AND/OR PERTINENT INFORMATION**

Department of Education and Early Development (DEED) School Construction Grant applications for FY 2026 are due by September 1, 2024, and Board approval of the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) priorities is a requirement of the application process. The Six-Year CIP is used to prioritize projects and establish the order of construction for District capital improvement projects. The School Board annually updates the Six-Year CIP. The District submits grant applications for the projects identified for the first year of the plan.

The Regional School Board and the Joint Maintenance and Construction Committee approved the preliminary Six-Year CIP in June so that applications for the prioritized projects could be prepared over the summer. The JMCC's recommendations were presented to the Board and approved at their June meeting. Since the June meetings, two projects received funding, Davis-Ramoth K-12 School Renovation and HVAC Controls Upgrades, 8 sites. Therefore, these were removed from the 6-year CIP list and the priority numbering was modified accordingly. Board approval of the final list is now required for it to be submitted to the Department of Education and Early Development by 9-1-24.

Attached is a proposed Final FY 2026 – FY 2031 CIP that includes a description of the proposed projects, and their anticipated costs. This document was presented to the JMCC at their August 26, 2024 meeting for their concurrence.

### **ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Board approval of the Final FY 2026 Six-Year Capital Improvement Plan, as presented.
2. Revise the Final FY 2026 Six-Year Capital Improvement Plan.
3. Take no action.

**ADMINISTRATION'S RECOMMENDATION:**

The administration recommends approval of the Final FY26 Six-Year Capital Improvement Plan.

**ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment A: Proposed FY 2026 Six-Year CIP

**FY 26 SIX YEAR CIP AS RECOMMENDED BY  
JOINT MAINTENANCE AND CONSTRUCTION COMMITTEE**

<b>District Priority</b>	<b>Primary Purpose</b>	<b>Project Title &amp; Description</b>	<b>SOA Aid</b>	<b>Estimated Project Cost</b>
1	D	Districtwide Fire System Repair and Replacement – JNES, KMHS, Noorvik, Buckland, Ambler and Shungnak require replacement. Parts are no longer available for repairs and the code has changed to require new systems with voice annunciation.	X	\$5,700,000
2	B	Deering K-12 Replacement School – new school on new site to replace overcrowded and worn-out facility. The existing site is not large enough to accommodate an addition without removal of the playground and relocating teacher housing off-site. In addition, many building components are beyond their use expectancy.	X	\$57,000,000
3	C	Buckland Boiler Replacement– Replacement of Boilers and flues is the final phase of the Buckland HVAC Upgrade. District is utilizing Borough and Denali Commission funds to upgrade the outdated Buckland HVAC system and DDC controls in Phases I & II.	X	\$575,000

**FY 2026 TOTAL  
\$63,275,000**

	<b>Primary Purpose</b>	<b>Project Title &amp; Description</b>	<b>SOA Aid</b>	<b>Estimated Project Cost</b>
		Projects not funded in FY 26 – It is anticipated resources will not be available to fund all requirements. They will take priority for FY 27.	X	Balance of FY 26 requests
4	C	Buckland K-12 School Exterior Envelope Renewal- replacement of roofing, doors and windows at the end of their useful life.	X	\$3,000,000

	Primary Purpose	Project Title & Description	SOA Aid	Estimated Project Cost
5	C	June Nelson Elementary School Roof Replacement- Replacement of failing roof, 20 years past its useful life. The school is experiencing frequent roof leaks that damage interior finishes and contribute to potential mold and structure damage and interfere with instruction.	X	3,500,000

**FY 2027 TOTAL  
\$6,500,000 +**

District Priority	Primary Purpose	Project Title & Description	SOA Aid	Estimated Project Cost
		Projects not funded in previous years – It is anticipated resources will not be available to fund all requested requirements. They will take priority for FY 28.	X	Balance of FY 27 requests
6	C	Noorvik K-12 School Roof Replacement - Replacement of roof which reached the end of its useful life in 2022.	☒	\$3,500,000

**FY 2028 TOTAL  
\$3,500,000 +**

District Priority	Primary Purpose	Project Title & Description	SOA Aid	Estimated Project Cost
		Projects not funded in previous years – It is anticipated resources will not be available to fund all requested requirements. They will take priority for FY 29.	X	Balance of FY 28 requests
7	C	June Nelson Elementary School Renewal- to replace building components at the end of useful life.	☒	\$7,500,000

**FY 2029 TOTAL  
\$7,500,000 +**

District Priority	Primary Purpose	Project Title & Description	SOA Aid	Estimated Project Cost
		Projects not funded in previous years – It is anticipated resources will not be available to fund all requested requirements. They will take priority for FY 30.	X	Balance of FY 29 requests
8	C	Noorvik School Renewal – Renewal of Aqqulak Noorvik School to replace building components at the end of useful life.	☒	\$8,000,000

**FY 2030 TOTAL  
\$8,000,000 +**

District Priority	Primary Purpose	Project Title & Description	SOA Aid	Estimated Project Cost
		Projects not funded in previous years – It is anticipated resources will not be available to fund all requested requirements. They will take priority for FY 31.	X	Balance of FY 30 requests
9	C	Kiana K-12 School Renewal – Renewal of Kiana K-12 School to replace building components at the end of useful life.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	\$5,500,000

**FY 2031 TOTAL  
\$5,500,000+**

Adopted **August 27, 2024**, at a duly convened meeting of the Northwest Arctic Borough School District at which a quorum was present and voting. I hereby certify that the information presented is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Superintendent

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
School Board President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## MEMORANDUM

---

**TO:** NWABSD Board of Education  
Members

**DATE:** August 27, 2024

**NUMBER:** 25-011

**FR:** Office of the Superintendent

**SUBJECT:** Approval of Budget and  
Design Contract Award  
Davis-Ramoth K-12 School  
Renovation

**ABSTRACT:**

Board approval is required to expend \$50,000.00 and higher.

**ISSUE:**

At issue is board allocation of funding and award of a design contract to continue planning and design of the Davis-Ramoth K-12 School Renovation to Burkhart Croft Architects.

**BACKGROUND AND/OR PERTINENT INFORMATION:**

Davis-Ramoth K-12 School Renovation was approved within the state FY25 budget at the end of June. The pending grant award is for a total of \$9,424,172 with \$7,539,339 from the state and \$1,884,834 of local match. While the grant is not yet signed, the district can move forward with planning and design and still be reimbursed for work completed. It is anticipated that the grant agreement will be finalized no later than September.

In 2020 the District advertised for competitive proposals for a term contract to provide districtwide design services. Burkhart Croft Architects (BCA) was the highest ranked proposer. Term contracts are renewable for a total of five years. Since that time and through a previous term contract, they have provided various design documents to support grant applications to the Department of Education and Early Development (DEED) for the Davis-Ramoth School Renewal. It is recommended that BCA continue providing design services for this project.

In anticipation of the project bidding in the spring of 2025, the Administration recommends allocating \$650,000 to the design budget now to continue design efforts in preparation for the construction phase. This expense is reimbursable through the grant.

It is recommended that the Superintendent be delegated authority to contract with Burkhart Croft Architects for further development of the Davis-Ramoth K-12 School Renovation project within the project budget. BCA has performed well, has a good understanding of the project, and has successfully designed other rural schools for the State.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Approve the design budget of \$650,000 for the Davis-Ramoth K-12 School Renovation Project and the delegation of authority to the Superintendent to contract with Burkhart Croft Architects, as presented.

2. Disapprove the design budget of \$650,000 for the Davis-Ramoth K-12 School Renovation Project and the delegation of authority to the Superintendent to contract with Burkhart Croft Architects, as presented.
3. Take no final action.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

The administration recommends the Board approve the \$650,000 design budget for the Davis-Ramoth K-12 School Renovation Project and the delegation of authority to the Superintendent to contract with Burkhart Croft Architects, within this budget.

## MEMORANDUM

---

**TO:** NWABSD Board of Education  
Members

**DATE:** August 27, 2024

**NUMBER:** 25-012

**FR:** Office of the Superintendent

**SUBJECT:** Adoption of Resolution  
25-001; Approval to  
Apply for AHFC Rural  
Professional Housing  
Grants for Noatak

### **ABSTRACT:**

The administration requests approval of a Resolution supporting application for funding to provide additional teacher and professional housing at Noatak and committing funding for the District share of required matching funds.

### **ISSUE:**

AHFC has a program to fund teacher, health professionals and public safety housing in rural areas. A Board resolution authorizing the District to apply for funding is an application requirement.

### **BACKGROUND AND/OR PERTINENT INFORMATION:**

The Alaska Housing Finance Corporation (AHFC) currently has approximately \$6 million in available funding. Applications are due October 25th for funding consideration.

The program provides for housing to be developed by school districts, government entities or third parties in partnership with Districts. The AHFC program provides funding for new construction, renovation of buildings into housing and upgrade of existing housing. The grants currently reimburse up to 85 percent of the total cost of the renovation projects with a limit of \$700,000 in AHFC funding per application. There are additional points for multiple units and projects that involve more than one agency or will house more than one type of professional. However, this year there are no additional points for a greater than 15% match as there have been in previous years.

The District needs three housing units for teachers and the Administration is discussing the Borough's potential need for a unit for a public safety officer or other professional in Noatak. At this time the total cost of the project has not been confirmed. However, the recently completed Selawik duplex cost roughly \$550,000. Because Noatak does not have barge service, and escalation has increased the cost of construction, each duplex is estimated to cost \$1.1M. The cost of two duplexes for Noatak can be assumed to be at least \$2.2 million.

A potential application approach would be to submit one application for two duplexes. The maximum AHFC grant award for this approach would be \$700k, and the required match to be covered by NWAB and NWABSD would be \$1.4M.

An alternative approach, which would maximize the grant award, and minimize the local match, would be to submit two separate applications, with each potentially receiving \$700k, or a total of \$1.4M, from AHFC. This would entail the District and the Borough submitting a joint application

for one duplex, and the District submitting a separate application for the other duplex. The grant solely funded by the District would not receive points for partnership, but the projects would be eligible for more AHFC funding while potentially increasing the budgets of each project. Three units would be occupied by teachers. It is planned that the units be constructed by the District using temporary labor. This approach was successful for the Buckland grant applications.

The minimum match requirement is 15%, which is \$105,000 per \$700k grant award. However, it is believed the final cost will be above \$805,000 per duplex. To adequately cover the anticipated project costs, a match of \$400,000 is needed for each duplex, or \$200,000 for each unit. A total of \$800,000, is needed to fully fund both duplexes through two applications.

The applications must include a letter of commitment for the local share of costs as recommended by the Board, and the Assembly as applicable. The District match would be funded from capital reserves.

Applications also require Board and Assembly resolutions supporting the applications for funding. The resolution must also name the person authorized to submit the application. The Administration recommends that Dena Strait, the District's Capital Projects Manager, be authorized to provide application information on behalf of the District. She will work with Kathy Christy who has prepared and submitted several successful grant applications to AHFC including for Kivalina, Selawik, and Buckland.

## **ALTERNATIVES**

1. Adopt Resolution 25-012 approving application to AHFC for funding for Rural Professional Housing in Noatak; approve the District submission of two applications - one as a joint project with the Northwest Arctic Borough, and the other for an additional teacher housing duplex project in Noatak sponsored solely by the District; commit to a local share of at least \$600,000 for its share; and authorize Dena Strait to provide application information on behalf of the Board and Assembly, as presented.
2. Adopt Resolution 25-012 approving applications to AHFC for funding for Rural Professional Housing in Noatak; approve the District submission of two applications sponsored solely by the District; commit to a local share of at least \$800,000 for its share; and authorize Dena Strait to provide application information on behalf of the Board, as presented.
3. Do not support application to AHFC for funding for Rural Professional Housing in Noatak.
4. Take no action.

## **ADMINISTRATION'S RECOMMENDATION**

The administration recommends the Board adopt Resolution 25-012 approving application to AHFC for funding for Rural Professional Housing in Noatak; approve the District submission of two applications – preferably Alternative #1 as a joint project with the Northwest Arctic Borough, but if the Borough is not able to participate, approval is granted for Alternate #2; with a local share commitment of up to \$800,00; and authorize Dena Strait to provide application information on behalf of the Board, as presented.

## **A RESOLUTION OF**

Northwest Arctic Borough School District Board of Education

Resolution 25- 001

**A Resolution of the School Board of Education of the Northwest Arctic Borough School District supporting grant applications for teacher housing duplexes in Noatak. Grant funds are available through the Alaska Housing Finance Corporation's SFY 25 Rural Professional Housing Grant Program.**

WHEREAS, the Alaska Housing Finance Corporation's Teacher and Professional Housing Grant Program provides grant funding reimbursing \$700,000 per successful application for the costs of developing and upgrading teacher housing,

WHEREAS, adequate housing is critical to the recruitment and retention of teachers,

WHEREAS, existing teacher housing within the former elementary school is failing, with only two of the seven units occupiable; and

WHEREAS, due to the age of the existing seven-plex within the former elementary school, it is becoming a financial burden to the district and is not fulfilling the housing needs, thus requires replacement; and

WHEREAS, current teacher housing opportunities within Noatak are limited to what is provided by the district; and

WHEREAS, the Northwest Arctic Borough School District is responsible for assisting village teachers to find housing,

WHEREAS, the Northwest Arctic Borough School District is committed to providing safe and adequate housing for its teachers,

WHEREAS, three housing units are needed to provide adequate housing in Noatak for the number of staff,

WHEREAS, the Northwest Arctic Borough School District using its own forces with financial support through Alaska Housing Finance Corporation has a successful track record of upgrading and expanding teacher housing,

WHEREAS, the Northwest Arctic Borough needs a housing unit for a Professionals under their purview in Noatak,

WHEREAS, the Northwest Arctic Borough School District is committed to providing the local share of costs to complete the project,

WHEREAS, Dena Strait, the District's Capital Projects Manager, through guidance of Kathy Christy, the outgoing District Capital Projects Manager, is supported with successful experience applying for and administering AHFC RPH grants on behalf of the School Board and the District,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: that the Northwest Arctic Borough School District, represented by Dena Strait, is authorized to request funding from the Alaska Housing Finance Corporation for the Rural Housing Professionals Housing Grant Program for two duplexes in Noatak, Alaska and to partner with the Northwest Arctic Borough as appropriate. NWABSD Board of Education supports application to the Alaska Housing Finance Corporation's Rural Professional Housing Grant Program to build teacher housing units within Noatak.

ADOPTED, August 27, 2024 at a duly convened meeting of the Northwest Arctic Borough School District Board of Education at which a quorum was present and voting:

ATTEST:

---

Magaret Hansen, NWABSD Board President

---

Tillie Ticket, NWABSD Secretary

## MEMORANDUM

---

**TO:** NWABSD Board of Education  
Members

**DATE:** August 27, 2024

**NUMBER:** 25-016

**FR:** Office of the Superintendent

**SUBJECT:** Approval of Grant Funding  
For Buckland HVAC/Energy  
Upgrades Phase II and  
Delegation of  
Contracting Authority to the  
Superintendent

### **ABSTRACT:**

Board approval is required for expenditures over \$50,000.00 and to increase project budgets.

### **ISSUE:**

At issue is a Denali Commission grant award of \$1,041,860 for Buckland HVAC/Energy Upgrades Phase II. Board approval is needed to utilize the funds for this project.

### **BACKGROUND AND/OR PERTINENT INFORMATION:**

In January 2023, the Board approved the award of contract to Sturgeon Electric for Phase I of the Buckland HVAC/Energy Upgrade Project. It was recognized at that time that additional funding was required to complete the project. The Board approved a delegation of authority to the Superintendent to seek additional funding to be added to the project.

In April of 2023, the District applied for federal funding from the Denali Commission. In July of 2023 the Denali Commission awarded \$1,041,860 for the project. No additional matching funds were required for this grant, as they accepted prior expenditures for Phase I, from both the Borough and the District, to act as the match for the new Denal Commission grant.

At question is Board approval to support utilization of the Denali Commission grant for Phase II work, not to exceed \$1,041,860. Several contracts will be required for this work including to Sturgeon Electric, RSA Engineering, EHS Environmental Services and for Project Management Services by Dena Strait.

Utilization of these grant funds will get all Phase II work completed by early 2025. It is recommended that the Board approve a delegation of contracting authority to the Superintendent in an amount not to exceed \$1,401,860.

### **ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Approve acceptance of Denali Commission grant funding and delegation of authority to the Superintendent in an amount not to exceed \$1,041,860.
2. Disapprove acceptance of the Denali Commission grant funding or delegation of authority to the Superintendent.
3. Take no final action.

**ADMINISTRATION'S RECOMMENDATION:**

The administration recommends the Board approve acceptance of the Denali Commission grant for the Buckland HVAC/Energy Upgrades Phase II project and approve delegation of authority to the Superintendent to manage contracts up to an additional \$1,041,860 in project funding.

## MEMORANDUM

---

**TO:** NWABSD Board of Education  
Members

**DATE:** August 27, 2024

**NUMBER:** 25-017

**FROM:** Office of the Superintendent

**SUBJECT:** Approval of Funding  
Selawik and Noorvik Fire  
Alarm Replacement

### **ABSTRACT**

Award of funding from the Borough for replacement of Davis-Ramoth and Noorvik fire alarm systems requires Board Approval.

### **ISSUE**

At issue is approval of acceptance of anticipated funding for the replacement of the fire alarm system and any associated work as required by the State Fire Marshal at Davis-Ramoth and Noorvik Schools and delegation of contracting authority to the Superintendent for this work.

### **BACKGROUND AND/OR PERTINENT INFORMATION**

At the January meeting Board Memorandum 24-085 approved emergency procurement procedures for the replacement of the failed Selawik fire alarm system and delegation of contracting authority to the Superintendent. It was intended funding would be from the Northwest Arctic Borough. Since that time, Noorvik has been added to the project due to ongoing issues with that system.

The District has been working with the Borough to secure project funding for several months. In their upcoming August 27-28, 2024 meeting, the Assembly will vote on approval of an award of \$860,000 to replace the fire alarm systems in both Selawik and Noorvik. This amount is the project budget to cover construction, design, project management and contingency for both schools. The Borough's funding for the Selawik portion, will count toward the required match for the Davis-Ramoth Renovation project which was awarded FY25 funding through Department of Education and Early Development (DEED). The Noorvik portion of the Borough funding could be used as match if the Districtwide Fire System project is awarded DEED funding in the future. District Administration needs board approval to accept the funding from the Borough and to allocate it as appropriate to accomplish the upgrade of the fire alarms.

Because of the emergency nature of this work, the project was designed and a bid solicited. The award of contract is addressed in a separate board memo. With approval of the contract award Selawik's work would occur in December of this year. Noorvik's work would begin in early January and be completed by the end of that month.

The Administration is most appreciative of the Borough's assistance with this critical work.

### **ALTERNATIVES**

1. Approve the acceptance of the award of funding from the Northwest Arctic Borough for replacement of Selawik and Noorvik fire alarm systems and delegation of authority to the Superintendent to establish the project budgets, as presented.
2. Do not approve the acceptance of the award of funding from the Northwest Arctic Borough for replacement of Selawik and Noorvik fire alarm systems and delegation of authority to the

Superintendent to establish the project budget, as presented.

3. Take no final action.

### **ADMINISTRATION'S RECOMMENDATION**

The administration recommends that the Board approve. the acceptance of the award of funding from the NW Arctic Borough for replacement of Selawik and Noorvik fire alarm systems and delegation of authority to the Superintendent to establish the project budgets as presented.

## MEMORANDUM

---

**TO:** NWABSD Board of Education  
Members

**DATE:** August 27, 2024

**NUMBER:** 25-018

**FROM:** Office of the Superintendent

**SUBJECT:** Award of Contract  
Sturgeon Electric and  
Delegation of Contracting  
Authority

### **ABSTRACT**

Contracts over \$50,000.00 require Board Approval.

### **ISSUE**

At issue is approval of contract for the replacement of the fire alarm system and any associated work as required by the State Fire Marshal at Davis-Ramoth and Noorvik schools.

### **BACKGROUND AND/OR PERTINENT INFORMATION**

At the January meeting Board Memorandum 24-085 approved emergency procurement procedures for the replacement of the failed Selawik fire alarm system and delegation of contracting authority to the Superintendent. Following this the District made its initial request for funding assistance to the Borough. Since this time, Noorvik's fire alarm system was also in distress, and replacement of this system was added to the project.

The project was bid in June. Two bids were submitted by the bid submission deadline on June 11, 2024. The low bidder was ultimately determined to be non-responsive as their bid did not satisfy the solicitation requirements. Sturgeon Electric was determined the only responsive bidder. Bid amounts are \$352,896 for Selawik, \$406,642 for Noorvik for a total of \$759,538.

District has been working with the Borough to secure project funding for several months. The Assembly is expected to approve the award of up to \$860,000 to the District for this work. The Borough funding amount will provide a project budget to cover construction, design, project management and contingency. The Borough's funding for Selawik will count toward the required match for the Davis-Ramoth Renovation grant which was awarded FY25 funding through Department of Education and Early Development (DEED). The Noorvik portion of the Borough funding could be used as match if the Districtwide Fire System project is awarded DEED funding in the future. District Administration needs board approval to award the contract to Sturgeon, The award of contract is contingent on Assembly approval of funding.

It is critical that the District be able to award and perform this fire alarm system replacement to remedy this safety issue at Selawik and perilous issue at Noorvik. If the contract is awarded in September, work in Selawik would occur in December of this year. Noorvik's work would begin in early January and be completed by the end of that month. To move forward the Superintendent requires approval to award the contract and the delegation of contracting authority to approve changes within the available construction budget, once funding is approved by the Borough Assembly.

### **ALTERNATIVES**

1. Approve the award of contract to Sturgeon Electric Company, LLC when funding is secured, and approve delegation of contracting authority to the Superintendent, as presented;
2. Do not approve the award of contract to Sturgeon Electric Company, LLC, and do not approve

delegation of contracting authority to the Superintendent, as presented;

3. Take no final action.

### **ADMINISTRATION'S RECOMMENDATION**

The administration recommends that the Board approve the award of contract to replace the Selawik and Noorvik fire alarm system replacements to Sturgeon Electric Company, LLC following Assembly approval of the funding and to approve a delegation of contracting authority within the project budget to the Superintendent, as presented.