



NORTH SLOPE BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Robyn Burke, President
Members of the School Board

THROUGH: David Vadiveloo, Chief School Administrator DSV

THROUGH: Tracy Mulvenon, Assistant Superintendent TM

FROM: MJ Geiser, Director of Qatqiññaigvik & CTE MJG

DATE: May 6, 2024

**SUBJECT: Purchases of Over \$50K -
Software and Hardware Purchase**

**Memo No: SB24-159
(Informational Item)**

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 3440, Inventories: The Superintendent or designee shall provide for the proper control and conservation of district property.

2020-2025 NSBSD STRATEGIC PLAN

4.0 Financial & Operational Stewardship: Effectively employ our operational and financial resources to support the long-term stability of the district.

Issue Summary:

Access to heavy equipment for training students is both age and cost prohibitive for secondary students. The use of simulators to provide a screen image that responds to the controls in exactly the same way a real machine would allows a safe and economical method of training high school students.

Background:

A heavy equipment operator must be at least 18 years of age, so the use of simulators is a way to provide high school students hands-on-experience. Simulators are used throughout the industry due to significant savings in terms of machine ownership or rental, cost of fuel, and reduced wear and tear on machines. Providing our students with the use of simulators in conjunction with the textbook instruction allows for experiential learning while increasing student engagement.

The software and hardware purchased support instruction on: wheel loader, bulldozer, skid-steer loader, and hydraulic excavator. The size and portability of the simulators will allow for instruction either at Qatqiññaigvik Learning Center or at the local school site. Qatqiññaigvik has existing laptops

that will support the use of the software, and the systems can easily connect to the existing VTC carts at each site.

Length of Software License:

The purchase of the software does not have an expiration date. During the first year all upgrades are provided at no charge. After the first year, upgrades are provided at 1/2 price. There are no maintenance costs.

Funding Source and Purchase Amount:

The funding sources for the two quotes are provided through MOAs with the North Slope Borough:

- Qatqĩññaġvik Learning Center - \$900,000
 - 379.200.160.000.440 – software for one simulator
 - 379.200.160.000.450 – hardware for one simulator
- CTE for Sites – \$500,000
 - 380.200.160.000.440 – software for two simulators
 - 380.200.160.000.450 – hardware for two simulators

Available Budget after Purchase:

- Qatqĩññaġvik Learning Center -
 - 379.200.160.000.??? – \$6,257.59
- CTE for Sites –
 - 380.200.160.000.??? – \$45,533.47

Grant Funds:

No grant funds are being used for this purchase.

Compliance with BP 3311:

This purchase of software and equipment is a sole-source procurements. The manufacturer, Simlog Inc. has one distributor for K-12 education in the state of Alaska, which is Klein Educational Systems. See attached letter from Simlog Inc.

Proposed Motion:

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

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