



Board Action Required X

No Action Required

To: Coppell ISD Board of Trustees
From: Denise Sullivan
Date: October 15, 2007
cc: Dr. Jeff Turner, Todd Kettler, Kelly Penny, Sid Grant

Re: SAT Test Preparation Program RFP #0701 Recommendation

The Request for Proposal Method (RFP), as provided in the Texas Education Code 44.031, was used to obtain proposals for SAT Test Preparation Program.

Bidding opportunity notifications were sent to six (6) prospective vendors providing this type of service: College Board, Karen Dillard's College Prep, Knowsys Test Prep LLC, Princeton Review, Sylvan, and TestGEAR. As required by Texas Education Code 44.031(g), advertisement of this RFP appeared in the Coppell Gazette on September 5, 2007, and September 12, 2007. In addition, this RFP was posted on the Coppell ISD website for the general public to view and download the proposal, if interested. The opening date of this proposal was September 19, 2007, at 2:00 p.m. The two (2) vendors responding to the RFP were Knowsys and Princeton Review.

The bid specifications supplied information on the expectations for instructional services for Advanced Academics. Coppell ISD began the SAT Prep program in the fall of 2005. These services are provided through the CISD Prepare and Succeed Program. This program provides opportunities for students to receive instruction to prepare for college entrance requirements.

Knowsys Test Prep LLC is the recommended vendor to supply these services for the following reasons:

1. Knowsys provides the best value since their pricing structure was based on the number of students enrolled in the courses as was set forth in the bid specifications. Princeton provided a flat rate per class (see attached bid tabulation on pricing). Class sizes typically range from a minimum of ten (10) students to less than twenty-five (25) students per class. This pricing structure is significant to the District since the possibility of not generating enough revenue to cover program expenses is significant with Princeton, but not likely at all with Knowsys.
2. The District has had previous experience and success with Knowsys since 2005. Utilizing the Knowsys course program, CISD students have shown average improvement of approximately 290 points.
3. Knowsys' curriculum places more emphasis on teaching content, whereas Princeton's curriculum suggests more of a priority on test-taking strategies. It is the opinion of Todd Kettler, our Director of Advanced Academics, that Knowsys provides more content-rich curriculum and therefore, more beneficial for the students of Coppell ISD.

Recommendation: That the Coppell ISD Board of Trustees approve Knowsys Test Prep LLC as the awarded vendor for the Coppell ISD SAT Test Prep Proposal #0701 at the October 22, 2007 Board meeting.