

MEMORANDUM

TO: NWABSD Board of Education
Members

DATE: November 25, 2025

NUMBER: 26-054

FR: Office of the Superintendent

SUBJECT: Approval of
Design Contract for
Districtwide Fire System
Replacement, 6 sites

ABSTRACT:

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

ISSUE:

At issue is board approval of the award of contract for design services to RSA Engineering for the design of the Districtwide Fire System Replacement, 6 sites project not to exceed \$515,000.

BACKGROUND AND/OR PERTINENT INFORMATION:

A DEED FY26 grant has been awarded to the District to replace the fire alarm systems within 6 of the District Schools. Noorvik is one of the 6 and was replaced earlier this year. The remaining schools to get new fire alarm systems, a District standard system, includes Ambler, Buckland, June Nelson, KMHS, and Shungnak. This new system was also installed in Selawik in early 2025. Shungnak will also get a new sprinkler system.

RSA Engineering completed the Code and Condition Surveys of the existing fire alarm systems in fall 2024 to help secure the DEED grant. They are intimately familiar with the project, the District's operational and maintenance needs for the new systems and the District's inspection and repair contractor, Frontier Fire. In addition, they have been part of the design team on the vast majority, if not all, District projects over the last 5+ years. Because they completed the preliminary fire alarm replacement work for the 6 sites project, DEED allows them to be contracted to complete the design work.

Remaining design work includes producing construction documents and supporting the project during bidding and construction. Design will be completed in early 2026, then the project will be bid and move into construction.

Funding is from the DEED grant and the match was approved by the Board in August. There is potential federal money through Representative Begich's office that will instead provide the match. Administration requests Board approval to contract with RSA Engineering for the design and approve the delegation of contract and budget authority to the Superintendent.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve the award of the contract for design to RSA Engineering for an amount not to exceed \$515,000 for the Districtwide Fire System Replacement, 6 sites project and approve the delegation of contract and budget authority to the Superintendent, as presented.

2. Do not approve the award of the contract for design to RSA Engineering for an amount not to exceed \$515,000 for the Districtwide Fire System Replacement, 6 sites project and do not approve the delegation of contract and budget authority to the Superintendent, as presented.
3. Take no final action.

RECOMMENDATION:

The administration recommends the Board approve the award of the contract for design to RSA Engineering for an amount not to exceed \$515,000 for the Districtwide Fire System Replacement, 6 sites project and approve the delegation of contract and budget authority to the Superintendent, as presented.