



SCHOOL BOARD MEETING REPORT

Board Meeting Date: 18-Jun-12

Agenda #

Staff/Administrator: Debbie Breckner

Superintendent: Dan Huber-Kantola

Type of Item: Informational Action

Please state your proposal briefly and clearly. What do you want the board to know, discuss, or decide?

I respectfully request that the Board of Directors approve the attached contract the District to re-lease 350 new computer machines to replace staff machines that are now 5 years old. Five years ago, the District began a five year replacement cycle of leasing computer machines and that lease expires June 30, 2012.

Provide history/background information on your proposal.

As noted above, the District begin a five-year replacement system of replacing machines, servers, and other expensive technology equipment. To pay the outright cost of bringing the District current at that time was more than \$2 million dollars, which was not in any way possible. An alternative was to lease equipment, with the option to buy it at the end of the lease and work on replacing computers and other equipment every 5 years. The current lease allows the District to purchase those 500 computers for \$1 each. Recently, we were notified that we can have them all for \$1, which will allow the District to move some of those computers to replace antiquated labs and other computer stations that now are more than 10 years or older. Because of the need to invest more in a new student information system for the 2012-2013 school year to meet the upfront expense, this proposed lease is was reduced for only 350 computer systems instead of 500. Currently the District is paying an annual lease payment of \$99,871.18. The replacement lease will be for \$62,663.93 each year.

List the advantages of your proposal:

Allows staff to have equipment that works for the work required that they need to have. Continues with the model of having a replacement plan in place so that the District does not fall too far behind in technology. Also continues having updated equipment so that the District can continue to keep the network secure, and not vulnerable.

List possible disadvantages of your proposal:

There may be some who believe the lease should wait for a year. This has been a long discussed topic for many months. Currently there are many staff who are frustrated at the slowness of the computers and the conflicts that are occurring with some of the software used by the District. At the end of the day, the only solution to those issues is to improve the machines on which people work.

List possible alternatives that could also offer a solution to your proposal. Why were they not recommended?

Delay the lease a year until the Summer of 2013. This was not chosen because the work planned for the Summer 2013 already will require staff to make a number of adjustments. That work includes the final implementation of Synergy, an upgrade to Windows 7. The District's software agreement requires us to remain no more than two versions behind the most current software and changes will be required next summer. In addition, the machines we currently have, while only 5 years old, are not adequate enough for what we are asking staff to do in integrating technology into their classrooms with the interactive white boards, clickers, document cameras, etc.

Superintendent's recommendation(s):

Approve: Yes No