

memo

To: The Board of Education and Dr. Patrick Broncato, Superintendent From: Curt Saindon, Assistant Superintendent for Business Services/CSBO

Date: November 14, 2025

Subject: Recommendation to Approve DAC and JJH Signage Upgrades

As was discussed in October, we currently have electronic signs at two of our buildings, the District Administrative Center and Jefferson Junior High. The DAC electronic sign board is about 10 years old, and the JJH electronic sign board is about 15 years old. The lighting, color, and graphics on the signboards, as well as the technology used to program them, are very old and outdated. We are having trouble getting parts for the boards and are looking to upgrade these signs as part of the school district's ongoing Capital Improvement Plan.

With new LED lighting technology and advanced programming and graphics capabilities, we can now get a full color sign with advanced feature software through Olympik Signs of Lombard. They provided our original signs and are the best-known electronic sign company in Chicagoland. The actual brick (at JJH) and stone (at DAC) monument signs are still in very good condition, and we would just be looking to have Olympik remove the old "guts" of each sign and install new "guts" that would be programmable, full-color, LED sign boards with advanced graphic capabilities.

Per the attached proposals, Olympik would propose redoing the two-sided monument sign at DAC for \$33,344 and the two-sided monument sign at JJH for \$42,648 (it is slightly larger than the DAC sign). These projects are considered technology-related and involve the repair, renovation, or upgrade of an existing asset, so they don't need to be bid out. Still, given their individual cost (over \$25K each), we wanted to bring them to the Board for discussion (in October) and then approval (in November). We do have funds allocated for these projects as part of the current Capital Improvement Plan, but the combined cost of the two projects exceeds the budget for signage upgrades. We would, therefore, propose using leftover available contingency funds from other projects that have come in under budget to cover the cost difference. Finally, we are in the process of determining whether we can install similar LED signs at our elementary schools. The old incandescent lighting and technology did not allow for this, but the new LED lighting has much less glare, and we can also program the signs to dim down or turn off during evening/overnight hours, if needed. If this is an option (to replace our old manual signs at our elementary schools), we would get cost proposals and bring them to the Board for consideration.

Let me know if you have any questions...thank you!



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RECOMMENDATION

It is the recommendation of the Administration that the Board approve the two attached proposals from Olympik Signs of Lombard, IL, to replace the old Watchfire EMC electronic signboard lighting and software with new 10mm, full color, LED, Watchfire Electronic Message Center Displays and associated software (training included) for the District Administrative Center (proposed cost is \$33,344) and Jefferson Junior High (proposed cost is \$42,648). Once Board approval is received, we will sign the respective proposals and schedule the work to be completed this winter, weather permitting. Funds for these projects will come from the Capital Projects Fund and have been identified in the school district's Five-Year Capital Improvement Program.