Administration Recommendation – Extension of Audit Services Contract

Recommendation:
Administration recommends that the Board of Education approve a three-year extension of the District's agreement with **Sikich** to provide independent auditing services for fiscal years **FY2026, FY2027, and FY2028**.

Rationale:
The District has worked with **Sikich** to conduct its annual financial statement audits and related compliance procedures. The firm has demonstrated a strong understanding of the District's financial operations, internal control environment, and regulatory requirements applicable to Illinois school districts.

During prior engagements, the firm has provided:

- Professional guidance on accounting standards and compliance requirements.
- Clear communication with administration and the Board regarding audit findings and recommendations.
- Consistency in staffing and familiarity with the District's systems and processes.

Extending the contract will allow the District to maintain continuity in its audit services while avoiding the administrative burden and transition time associated with issuing a new request for proposals. Maintaining the current auditor is particularly beneficial as the District continues to manage significant financial activities, including capital projects and bond-related reporting requirements.

Administration has reviewed the proposed fee schedule and believes the costs remain reasonable and consistent with services provided to similarly sized school districts.

Financial Impact:
Audit fees will be paid from the **Education Fund (Fund 10)** or other applicable operating funds as part of the District's annual financial services expenditures.

FY2026: $55,000

FY2027: $56,500

FY2028: $58,000

Conclusion:
Based on the firm's performance, familiarity with District operations, and the benefit of maintaining continuity in audit services, Administration recommends extending the contract with **Sikich** for an additional three-year term.