

To: Board of Education
From: Margo Empen, Superintendent
Subject: Action Item - Approve the Purchase and Construction of Playground Equipment at Dempsey Therapeutic School – April 16, 2025

PROPOSED MOTION BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

That the Board approves the purchase and construction of playground equipment at Dempsey Therapeutic School, as presented.

Moved by _____; Seconded by _____

YEA	NAY	YEA	NAY
____ David Fritts	____	____ Brandon Rogers	____
____ Melissa Gates	____	____ Jon Wadsworth	____
____ Kathleen Schaefer	____	____ Linda Wegner	____
____ Linda LeBlanc-Parks	____		

Background: The following information was provided by Mr. Campbell & Mr. Schultz:

In accordance with Dixon Public Schools #170 Board of Education Policy 2:20 Powers and Duties of the Board of Education, the Board enters into contracts in accordance with applicable federal and State law, including using the public bidding procedure when required. In this situation, the District has engaged OMNIA purchasing partnership which holds state contracts. The utilization of their products and services does not require a public bidding process.

Enclosed you will find the complete presentation of the playground to be constructed at Thomas J. Dempsey Therapeutic Day School. The playground was created in consultation with J. Huffman, S. Eddinger, and K. Schultz. This project will be funded by the IDEA grant. The cost outlined on page #9 as a total of \$229,886.59. Please remember that installation of playground equipment at schools and park districts is a specialty field. This is not the type of system that can be installed by any contractor or our maintenance team.

The quote includes installation and all warranties for materials and labor. Also note the project includes the installation of the “Poured in Place Rubber Safety Surfacing”. This is a high-quality product under the structure that eliminates the need for mulch and is significantly safer and more forgiving during falls. It is our intent over time to have these surfaces installed at all of our playground facilities.

It is the recommendation of District Administration to approve the purchase and construction of the TJD playground as presented.