



NORTH EAST INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Date: April 10, 2023

Presenter: Lisa Shoemith
Director of Internal Audit

Subject: Independent Audit Services
Contract

Related Page(s):

ACTION ITEM

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Texas Education Code (44.008) requires all public school districts to have their fiscal accounts audited annually at district expense by a certified public accountant holding a permit from the Texas State Board of Public Accountancy. The independent audit must meet the minimum requirements and be in the format prescribed by the State Board of Education. Texas Government Code (2254.003) states that a district shall make the selection of a provider of Independent Audit Services based on “demonstrated competence and qualifications to perform the services and for a fair and reasonable price.” In addition to this guidance, TEA states that along with the consideration of professional qualifications and cost, districts should also consider other factors when selecting independent audit services, including experience of the interested accounting firm in public school auditing and availability and location of the interested accounting firm’s staff.

ADMINISTRATIVE CONSIDERATION

The contract for Independent Audit Services is for a one-year period with the option to extend the agreement on an annual basis for four additional years through the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027. Bid requests were issued to all known companies and advertised in the San Antonio newspaper, as required. A bid evaluation committee was formed to evaluate the six responses received. Interviews with three firms were conducted by the evaluation committee on March 22, 2023. The cost comparisons of the firms are provided with tonight’s Action Item.

ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the public accounting firm of *Alonzo, Bacarisse, Irvine & Palmer, P.C. (ABIP, PC)* be retained for the Independent Audit Services for North East Independent School District for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, with the possibility of renewal for four additional years.

BOARD ACTION REQUIRED

Approval/Disapproval