

**Henderson ISD
Board Background**

Subject: Approval of Radio System Upgrade Using Safety Grant Funds

Presented for: Action_X_

Report Only____

Background Information:

As part of our continued efforts to enhance district-wide safety and emergency preparedness, we are recommending the purchase of upgraded handheld and mobile radio units. This initiative is funded entirely through the Texas School Safety Grants and will have no impact on the district's general fund.

When we developed our comprehensive plan for the use of Safety Grant funds, we identified this radio upgrade as a major purchase. To ensure responsible budgeting, we reserved this item for the end of our grant cycle. With all other required components completed and grant obligations met, we are now ready to move forward with this critical communication upgrade.

Proposal:

We are recommending the purchase of 80 rugged handheld radios and 60 mobile units for our district's bus fleet. These radios are designed for durability and functionality, closely aligning with those used by first responders.

A key benefit of this purchase is that it allows Henderson ISD to join the Texas Wide Area Radio Network (TxWARN). TxWARN is a public safety communication system used by over 260 agencies—including law enforcement, EMS, federal agencies, and the military—and covers more than 70,000 square miles across 37 counties. Integration into this system would place us on the same communication channels as the emergency personnel we depend on during crisis situations.

In addition to the safety benefits, this upgrade will significantly expand our day-to-day communication capabilities. It will provide improved coverage within the district and on extracurricular trips—capabilities not available with our current system.

Fiscal Impact:

The total cost for this purchase is **\$246,648.60** and will be funded entirely through the School Safety Grant. There is no impact on the general fund.

Recommendation:

Approve the purchase of new radios in the amount of \$246,648.90 from Command Communications as presented.

Contact Person(s):

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