



**GOVERNING BOARD AGENDA ITEM FORM
AMPHITHEATER UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 10**

DATE OF MEETING: July 3, 2012

TITLE: Approval of Award of Contract for Blended Learning Amphi Academy at El Hogar Based on Responses to Request for Proposal (RFP) 11-0085

BACKGROUND:

The Administration is creating an online blended learning program, Amphi Academy at El Hogar, for students in grades seven through twelve who have been long term suspended. The program will provide a full range of core and elective classes to middle and high school students through online courses and online teachers. Courses will be provided by the successful vendor.

Students will have the ability to enter and exit the program at any time. Students who leave the online program will go back to their previous school at the end of a quarter for middle school students and, at the end of a semester for high school students. Enrollment is expected to fluctuate between thirty and one hundred students. The El Hogar Learning Center will be open early evenings Monday through Thursdays. Students who fail to make satisfactory academic progress in the on-line courses will be required to participate in tutorial sessions at the center. Students maintaining a 'C' or better are not required to attend the Learning Center but may elect to do so if they need assistance.

The Learning Center teachers will be highly qualified in English/Language Arts, Social Studies, Mathematics or Science. They will provide instruction in the necessary content areas working with students not only as tutors but as mentors to develop study skills. The Request for Proposals (RFP) listed the minimum teacher requirements: Arizona Certified, experienced in teaching online courses, highly qualified in their subject matter and available to assist the Learning Center staff as needed. The minimum course requirements were also listed: to be of high quality, rigorous, relevant and aligned with Common Core State Standards. The successful vendor's program shall have the ability to monitor student progress, track attendance and allow communication between the teachers, students, parents & Learning Center staff.

Responding vendors were evaluated based on their program's ability to align with Amphi Academy's goals: highly qualified teachers, rigorous course work, relevant experience and demonstrated success in offering Online Blended Learning to K-12 Education. Cost of service was also an evaluation criteria. Eight vendors responded to the RFP (e2020, Pearson, Advanced Academics, Bridgewater Academy, American Virtual Academy and World Virtual Schools).

Two vendors were determined to be non-responsive due to their program's failure to align with Common Core State Standards or to provide the required course offerings. The Evaluation Team: Monica Nelson, Patti Greenleaf, and consultants from Evergreen Education scored the remaining six vendors based on their response to the RFP.

The three top scoring vendors, e2020, Pearson and Advanced Academics, were invited to present additional information on their Learning Management System. Following the presentations, a Best & Final Offer was mailed to each vendor addressing final questions and providing each vendor an opportunity to amend their response. The Evaluation Team again scored each vendor based on a rubric focusing on instruction, assessment, the ability to interact with the El Hogar Learning Center staff, the ease of use and, teacher/parent/student communication.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Administration recommends the Governing Board approve the Award of Contract to e2020 for a Blended Learning Curriculum, Grades Seven through Twelve based on their response to Request for Proposal 11-0085.

INITIATED BY:

Scott Little

Scott Little, Chief Financial Officer

July 2, 2012

Patrick Nelson

Patrick Nelson, Superintendent