



San Elizario ISD  
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## MEMORANDUM

**To:** Members of the Board of Trustees  
**From:** Blanca I. Cruz, Associate Superintendent  
**Subject:** Communities in School Contract – 2025-2026 School Year  
**Date:** June 11, 2025

**HISTORY:** Communities in Schools (CIS) is a multi-service dropout prevention program in the El Paso area. CIS of El Paso provides opportunities for students to improve in the areas of academics, behavior, and attendance, resulting in a higher stay-in-school rate. Since 1985, they have been and continue to be the only school-based, not-for-profit organization providing dropout prevention services in El Paso County.

**RATIONALE:** The San Elizario ISD administration was contacted by Communities in Schools personnel and invited to apply to the National Scaling for Success Grant. The 3-Year Grant Initiative helps cover a portion of the cost of the Communities in Schools Coordinator. San Elizario ISD was approved for the grant to cover a portion of the cost for two Communities in Schools Coordinators.

The proposed plan would place one coordinator at Alfonso Borrego Sr. Elementary and another one at San Elizario High School. To qualify for the grant, the coordinators could not be assigned to a campus where CIS had previously served the district. Therefore, the placement was made strategically, considering the district's needs. The CIS Coordinators are housed at the campus to which they are assigned.

Please note that the CIS Coordinators would not be considered employees of San Elizario ISD. They are hired by CIS and contracted by the school through the attached agreement. Although the grant was approved for three years, the contract between CIS and San Elizario ISD is contingent upon the district's funding availability each year.

**BUDGET IMPACT:** The budget impact for the 2025-2026 school year is \$50,000 for both coordinators, which will be paid in twelve monthly installments starting in July 2025.

**ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATION:** The administrative recommendation is to approve the contract as presented.

**For Approval?** ☒ Yes ☐ No

**If no, please check one:** ☐ Presentation ☒ Report ☐ Information

**Please check if applicable:** ☒ Attachment Included

The mission of the San Elizario Independent School District is to graduate students with innovative skills for 21st-century careers by focusing on academic and social skills, fostering transformative practices, and building community support through positive relationships between home and school.