

HAYS CONSOLIDATED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Date: February 23, 2026

Agenda Item: L.2b

Board Goal: Student Achievement

Subject: Consideration and possible approval of the purchase of Network Routers and Small Form-factor Pluggable Modules for Network Upgrades – Solid IT Networks

Administrator Responsible/Position: Alan Duerr, Chief Technology Officer
Ray Gonzales, Deputy Technology Officer

A. Purpose of Agenda Item:

☒ Action needed ☐ Information only ☐ Receive input

B. Authority for This Action:

☒ Local Policy: ☐ Law or Rule ☐ N/A
CH – Purchasing and Acquisition

C. Goal or Need Addressed: The goal of this request is to meet the need to replace the essential network routers, installed in 2015, as they are reaching the end of their service life.

D. Summary:

☒ **Previous board action relating to this item:** The Board previously approved the purchase of these Extreme Networks routers in May of 2015.

☒ **Future action anticipated:** If the Board approves, the Technology Department will proceed with the upgrade of network routers at the following locations:

- Impact Center
- Buda Elementary School
- Blanco Vista Elementary School
- Carpenter Hill Elementary School
- Camino Real Elementary School
- Fuentes Elementary School
- Hemphill Elementary School
- Negley Elementary School
- Pfluger Elementary School
- Tobias Elementary School
- Uhland Elementary School
- Facilities – Maintenance & Operations
- Transportation

☒ **Background information:** The district's current network equipment is more than 10 years old. This aging equipment no longer meets the operational needs of the Hays CISD's teachers and students. These older routers are struggling to meet current cybersecurity standards. Upgrading the network routers will enhance reliability, boost security, and lay a strong foundation for supporting future learning initiatives.

E. Comments Received:

☒ Cabinet ☐ DLT ☐ FBOC ☒ Other: Technology Dept

F. Administrative Recommendation: Administration recommends approval of the purchase.

Advantages and benefits of this proposal: Upgrading the network routers improves the performance, reliability, security, and scalability to support future growth.

Expected results in terms of student benefit/achievement: Approving this purchase ensures the Hays CISD will have access to a reliable network. Educators and Administrators can then focus on instruction and support of our staff/students.

Effect of this action on other parts of the system: Upgrading the network will increase performance, reliability, and security across all schools, enabling better access to digital resources for students and staff.

Consequences of not approving this recommendation: Not approving this recommendation would leave the district with outdated network equipment. This will lead to more frequent disruptions to classroom instruction, increased cybersecurity risks, slower connectivity, higher maintenance costs, and difficulties supporting digital learning technologies.

G. Fiscal Impact and Cost: \$338,514.72 (*Split 2025 Bond and E-Rate*)

☐ Budget ☒ **2025 Bond:** \$138,998.69 ☒ **E-Rate:** \$249,516.03

☐ **Budget Amendment Needed**

Prior Year Spending for this item/service: n/a

Bid / Contract Information: RFP #06-122502AS

Reasons for rejecting alternatives: The vendor selected, Solid-IT Networks, provides the best value and performance.

Future/Ongoing: None. We will be purchasing the router licenses for five years.

H. Monitoring and Reporting Time Line:

Person responsible for evaluating this decision or action: Alan Duerr, Jose Parra, Ray Gonzales

Evaluation method and timeline: N/A

Next report to the Board: N/A

I. Suggested Motion:

I move that the Hays CISD Board of Trustees approve the purchase of network routers and small form-factor pluggable modules from Solid IT Networks for an amount not to exceed \$338,514.72, as presented.