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To: Coppell ISD Board of Trustees  
From: Josette Dobbins, Director of Purchasing  
Date: July 28, 2025  
cc: Doug Williams, Diana Sircar  
Re: **Recommendation to Approve Purchasing Cooperative Usage and Associated Fees Paid by CISD**

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**Background Information:**

House Bill 273 (Acts 2021, 87th Leg., R.S., Ch. 855, S.B. 799), effective September 1, 2021, requires school districts to disclose annually the amounts spent on cooperative purchasing fees. The law stipulates:

**Sec. 44.0331. MANAGEMENT FEES UNDER CERTAIN COOPERATIVE PURCHASING CONTRACTS**

A school district entering into a purchasing contract valued at \$25,000 or more under Section 44.031(a)(5), Subchapter F, Chapter 271, Local Government Code, or any other cooperative purchasing program authorized by law, must document any contract-related fees, including management fees, paid by or to the district, and specify the purpose of each fee.

- a) The amount, purpose, and disposition of any fees described in Subsection (a) must be presented in a written report, which should be submitted annually at an open meeting of the board of trustees. The report must be listed as an agenda item.
- b) The commissioner may audit the written report described in Subsection (b).
- c) School districts are permitted to use awarded bids from cooperative purchasing agreements, which provide flexibility and efficiency in acquiring goods and services while maintaining legal compliance. All listed purchasing cooperatives adhere to applicable bidding laws when awarding contracts to vendors

**Purchasing Cooperatives and Fees for FY 2025-2026:**

- **1GPA (Government Procurement Alliance):** No membership fee
- **BuyBoard (Texas Association of School Boards):** No membership fee
- **Central Texas Purchasing Alliance:** \$150 annual fee (covers administrative costs)
- **DIR (Texas Department of Information Resources):** No membership fee
- **E&I Cooperative Services:** No membership fee
- **GSA (U.S. General Services Administration):** No membership fee
- **HCDE (Harris County Department of Education), Choice Partners:** No membership fee
- **H-GAC (Houston-Galveston Area Council):** No membership fee
- **Omnia Partners (includes National IPA, TCPN, & U.S. Communities):** No membership fee
- **Purchasing Solutions Alliance (PSA), Brazos Valley COG:** No membership fee

- **Region 2 ESC (GoodBuy Purchasing Cooperative):** No membership fee
- **Region 3 ESC (Purchasing Cooperative of America):** No membership fee
- **Region 6 ESC (RESC 6):** No membership fee
- **Region 8 ESC (TIPS USA):** No membership fee
- **Region 10 ESC:** No membership fee
  - EdTech Exchange
  - Equalis Group Purchasing Cooperative
- **Region 11 ESC:** No membership fee
  - EPCNT (Educational Purchasing Cooperative of North Texas): \$100 annual fee
- **Region 13 ESC:** No membership fee
- **Region 14 ESC (NCPA):** No membership fee
- **Region 15 ESC (791 Purchasing Cooperative):** No membership fee
- **Region 16 ESC (TexBuy):** No membership fee
- **Region 17 ESC (WTFSC):** No membership fee
- **Region 18 ESC:** No membership fee; \$990 annual fee (covers administrative costs)
- **Region 19 ESC (Allied States):** No membership fee
- **PACE (Purchasing Association of Cooperative Entities):** No membership fee
- **Sourcewell (formerly NJPA):** No membership fee
- **Statewide Procurement Division (CMBL, TPASS, TXMAS, TXSmartBuy):** \$100 annual fee (covers administrative costs)
- **Tarrant County Purchasing Cooperative:** No membership fee

**Total estimated annual fees: \$1,340**

#### **Fiscal Implications:**

All membership fees are paid from the Business Office's General Operating Fund budget. By providing and sharing this information with the Coppell ISD Board of Trustees, Coppell ISD is compliant with House Bill 273.

#### **Recommendations:**

It is recommended that the Coppell ISD Board of Trustees approve the district's continued use of these purchasing cooperatives and acknowledge the associated fees. Utilizing these cooperatives allows the district to leverage collective purchasing power, achieve cost savings, reduce administrative effort, and access a broad range of products and services. If approved, CISD will prioritize contracts that provide competitive pricing and value.