

ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDATION/REPORT

The District President recommends that the Board of Trustees approves the utilization of purchasing cooperatives listed in Attachment #1 on an as-needed basis for authorized expenditures for fiscal year 2026.

BACKGROUND

The District uses competitive solicitations procured through various purchasing cooperatives, group purchasing organizations, government purchasing alliances, and interagency agreements within and outside the State of Texas. Contracts awarded through these cooperatives comply with the competitive procurement requirements in Section 44.031 of the Texas Education Code, as authorized by Section 791.011 of the Texas Government Code.

IMPACT OF THIS ACTION

Purchasing goods and services through competitively bid cooperatives allows the District to leverage its buying power by pooling the purchasing volume of multiple governmental and educational institutions to obtain the best value for cooperative members. Utilizing these contracts also saves time and reduces administrative costs. Because they are readily available when needed, these contracts eliminate the requirement to initiate a formal solicitation process.

RESOURCE PERSONNEL

Melissa Irby, Chief Financial Officer
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Attachment #1 – Purchasing Cooperatives

Collin County Governmental Purchaser's Forum

Educational & Institutional Cooperative Purchasing (E&I)

Harris County Department of Education (HCDE) - Choice Partners

Houston-Galveston Area Council of Governments (H-GAC)

Omnia Partners (includes National IPA/TCPN/NCPA/US Communities & Vizient contracts)

TXShare - North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG)

Region 10 Education Service Center

Sourcewell

State of Texas Cooperative Purchasing Program

Tarrant County Cooperative Purchasing Program

Texas Association of Community College Business Officers (TACCBO)

Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) – BuyBoard

Texas Community College Teachers Association (TCCTA) Purchasing Consortium

Texas Connection Consortium through Lamar Institute of Technology

Texas Department of Information Resources (DIR)

Texas Interlocal Purchasing System (TIPS)

U.S. General Services Administration (GSA), Schedules 70 and 84

NPPGov

University of Texas (UT) System

Equalis Group

Pace Purchasing Cooperative