

Questions Submitted by Trustee Elda Flores

April 18, 2018

Regular Called Board Meeting

Consent Agenda Item #3

1.) How does Skyward, Inc's. student management software compare to iTCCS, the software system the district has used thru Region 20?

- It is a Student Information System (SIS) so it does everything iTCCS does, but does so in a modern, user-friendly way
- It is also a one-stop shop--as an administrator, I always wanted to know what could I do to make my teachers' job easier, this does that
 - attendance
 - grades
 - discipline referrals
 - parent contact
- It has a robust parent section that I feel will increase parent awareness of what is happening with their child
 - besides what was listed above
 - calendar
 - registration
 - course requests
- Skyward's interface is modern & mimics the look most other contemporary software use (e.g. dashboards, graphics, customizable, etc. . .)
- user-friendly access for teachers, parents, and students
- It will help us to move towards the paperless environment we want to embrace which also reinforces our 21st Century values for technology
- mobile apps for various operating systems

2. What is the difference in cost?

The district will save approximately \$110,000 annually in license fees for both the student and the finance systems.

3.) What other school districts in Bexar County and/or Region 20 use Skyward, Inc.?

- Medina Valley
- Somerset
- Hondo
- (waiting for a list from company)

4.) Will the school district have local support when the system is not working?

- There are 38 support reps dedicated to Texas alone to deal with both the student & finance sides. The reps are physically located in Dallas and Austin. They are available by phone/email and will come to our district at our request.
- Region 20 supported us by phone and email. Region only provides 2 people as support for all the districts that use iTCCS. We have access to 38 with Skyward. Skyward will support us in the same manner via phone/email but have more people on hand for support.
- We will have weekly/monthly trainings for our first year of implementation.