
Board of Education

ACTION

TITLE: Consider Approval of the Sale of Fort Smith Public Schools' EBS Spectrum license

DATE: July 12, 2021

RESPONSIBLE ADMINISTRATOR: Martin Mahan
Deputy Superintendent

Vance Gregory
Director of Technology

VISION 2023 STRATEGY: Strategy 6: Technology

BACKGROUND/CONSIDERATIONS:

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) licensed school districts for the use of channels within a specific frequency spectrum in 1963. The FCC provided this Educational Broadband Service (EBS) spectrum to promote the delivery of educational content. FSPS is currently one of only two educational institutions in Arkansas with full ownership of its licensed channels.

With the Board's approval, the District entered into a non-binding agreement with Select Spectrum to market the District's EBS license to seek Fair Market Value (FMV) offers for the sale of this license. Select Spectrum has presented the district with final offers from two prospective buyers. T-Mobile has submitted an offer that the District and Select Spectrum believe to be in excess of what would be considered FMV at this time. It is the position of the District to move forward with the sale of its EBS license.

RECOMMENDATION:

If the Board agrees, the motion would read: *move to approve the sale of Fort Smith Public Schools' EBS license to T-Mobile.*

VISION 2023 STRATEGIES - **1. Career Planning:** Develop and implement education and career pathways so that each student graduates with a viable plan and relevant skill set for his or her future. **2. Equity:** Develop and implement a system-wide plan to provide all students with the resources they need to optimize their learning. **3. Instruction:** Design, develop and implement programs to promote rigor, relevance, collaboration, critical- thinking skills and learning environments designed to meet each student's unique needs and aspirations. **4. Learning Environment/Facilities:** Align resources, facilities and technology strategically and equitably across the district to maximize security and enhance the learning environment. **5. Staffing:** Recruit and retain highly-qualified faculty, staff and administration. **6. Technology:** Provide appropriate technology that is consistently available, effectively supported and equitably distributed for group and individual instruction. **7. Wellness:** Develop and train empathetic and nurturing employees to be sensitive to and supportive of the needs of all children and families.