



East Aurora Administration Center
310 Seminary Ave
Aurora, IL 60505

Date: January 20th, 2026

To: Dr. Robert Halverson, Superintendent of Schools
East Aurora School District 131 Board of Education

From: Andrew Allen, Assistant Superintendent of Operations

Subject: Recommendation to accept Brady Elementary School's Fire Panel Replacement.

The Issue:

East Aurora School District 131 2026 Brady Fire Panel Bid Results.

Justification:

The fire panel at Brady Elementary School is old, and the system panel needs to be replaced to ensure student safety and emergency response. The district went out to bid to replace the panel. Only one (1) bid was received on Thursday, December 4th, 2025, in a public meeting.

Board Policy:

Pursuant to Board Policy 4:60, Supplies, materials, or work involving an expenditure in excess of \$25,000 must comply with the State law bidding procedure, 105 ILCS 5/10-20.21, unless specifically exempted.

Strategic Plan:

This recommendation supports Strategic Goal #2, Operational Excellence that states the following: *East Aurora School District 131 will align and utilize systems and resources that promote operational excellence, efficiency, and fiscal accountability.*

Supporting Data:

Supporting documentation is attached.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that the Board of Education approve Elite Technology Systems fire panel replacement base bid #1 for Brady Elementary School in the amount of \$355,890.

Timeline for Decision

January 20th, 2026



December 8, 2025

Dr. Robert Halverson, Superintendent
EASD #131
310 Seminary Avenue
Aurora, IL 60505

**Re: 2026 Fire Panel Replacement Bid Summary & Recommendations
CCA Project #251060**

Dear Dr. Halverson:

On December 4, 2025, bids were received for the 2026 Fire Panel Replacement project at Brady Elementary School. The project was publicly advertised on November 7, 2025, and a mandatory Pre-Bid meeting was held virtually on November 14, 2025. Bids were received for the projects Base Bid Scopes of Work, and no alternate bids were considered. One (1) single bid was received and opened.

The Base Bid #1 (Brady Elementary School) total value was higher than the estimate for this project; \$106,000 over estimated budget (including a \$25,000 contingency allowance). It is our opinion that the values listed in the Facility Master Plan document are now outdated and should be re-evaluated based on current construction trends. At the post bid interview, Elite Technology Systems confirmed that tariffs have influenced escalated costs compared to last year's bid at Rollins Elementary. Fire alarm panels and components primarily come from Mexico and have seen a spike of almost 40% with tariffs imposed. We were informed that there has also been an increased labor shortage for contractors specializing in this area of work. For this reason, we would not expect the cost to come down if the project were to be rebid later.

Elite Technology Systems, the apparent low bidder, was interviewed following the bid opening and appears to be the lowest responsive and responsible bidder for the work requested. Elite Technology Systems has successfully completed multiple fire panel replacement projects in the district, most recently this past summer at Rollins Elementary School. We are confident in their ability to deliver the project on time and within the contract value.

Attached is a summary of the bid results for: East Aurora School District 131, 2026 Fire Panel Replacement Project, for use at the January 5, 2026 B&G committee Meeting and the January 20, 2026 Board Meeting for direction with award of the Base Bid #1 (Brady Elementary School).

We recommend award of Elite Technology Systems' Base Bid #1 per the following:

CONTRACTOR	ITEM	BID AMOUNT
Elite Technology Systems	2026 Fire Panel Replacement Project	
	Base Bid #1 (including allowance) <i>Brady Elementary School</i>	\$355,890.00
	TOTAL COMBINED RECOMMENDED AWARD	\$355,890.00



To ensure the completion of this project in the summer of 2026, we recommend the Board of Education select and approve the award based on the bids received as soon as possible.

Sincerely,



Richard Blair
Cordogan, Clark & Associates, Inc.

Attachments:

1. Bid Tabulations

CORDOGAN CLARK

East Aurora School District #131 - Fire Panel Replacements

CC Project #25-1060

Bid Summary - 12/04/2025



CONTRACTOR	BID BOND	PRE-QUAL	ADDENDA (1) RECEIVED	BASE BID #1-BRADY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	VOLUNTARY ALTERNATE
Elite Technology Systems	X	X	X	\$355,890.00	-