

# ***Manor Independent School District***

## ***Board of Trustees Board Meeting Agenda Item***

*January 21, 2024*

### **CONSENT ITEM SHEET**

**RE:** Consider and take possible action regarding the Weapons Detection Systems project at Manor ISD secondary schools, including possible delegation of authority to Administration to evaluate/rank and select vendor(s) including possible delegation of authority to the Superintendent and/or designee to negotiate and execute the agreement.

#### **Supporting Documents:**

1. None.

#### **District Goals\*: Goal 5**

**FACILITIES & MAINTENANCE-** By 2026, Manor ISD will proactively provide facilities to ensure 100% of scholars will have safe, well-maintained, environmentally sustainable, and community accessible facilities.

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#### **Background Information:**

In response to growing concerns over safety and security, Manor ISD has been exploring the implementation of weapons detection systems at its secondary schools. The goal is to provide a secure environment for students, staff, and visitors by proactively identifying and preventing the entry of weapons, including firearms, into school buildings.

A comprehensive vetting process has been initiated to identify the most effective solutions. This includes evaluating various technologies that offer non-invasive, efficient, and reliable methods for detecting weapons as individuals enter the school. Solutions under consideration include advanced screening technologies such as walk-through metal detectors, security scanners, and artificial intelligence-based systems that can scan for concealed weapons without requiring individuals to empty pockets or undergo invasive procedures.

The primary objective is to ensure that everyone—students, staff, and visitors—feel safe and secure while on school grounds. By installing weapons detection systems, Manor ISD aims to create a safer learning environment and act proactively in preventing potential threats. The district's vetting process considers factors such as system effectiveness, ease of use, cost, and the ability to integrate with existing security infrastructure.

The district is committed to transparency and collaboration, and currently has a Request for Proposal (RFP) posted publicly to identify the best vendor for procurement and installation of these systems at the secondary schools. Because of the timelines associated with scheduling the implementation and installation, Administration is requesting that the Board delegate authority to Administration to evaluate/rank and select a vendor as well as to enter into a contract for an amount up to \$1.8 million. This will allow Administration to move more quickly and take the steps to ensure that a new system can be installed before the start of the 2025-26 school year. Currently, proposals for the Request for Proposals (RFP) are due on February 6, 2025. Prior to the deadline, Administration will also be scheduling live demonstrations of the products/services as part of the procurement process to more fully evaluate the effectiveness and utility of the potential vendors and their products/services.

#### **Fiscal Implications:**

The funding will come from 2019 Bond contingency or interest funds. The project will not exceed \$1.8M

#### **Administrative Recommendation:**

Because of the timelines associated with scheduling the implementation and installation, Administration is requesting that the Board delegate authority to Administration to evaluate/rank and select a vendor as

well as to enter into a contract for an amount up to \$1.8 million. This will allow Administration to move more quickly and take the steps to ensure that a new system can be installed before the start of the 2025-26 school year.

**Proposed Motion:**

*“I move that the Board delegate authority to the Superintendent and/or his designee(s) to evaluate/rank and select a vendor for the Weapons Detection Systems at Manor ISD Secondary Schools as set out in the bid package and further delegate authority to the Superintendent or his designee(s) to negotiate and enter into a contract for these systems in an amount not to exceed \$1.8 million.”*

Mr. Joe Mendez

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**Contact Person**

Dr. Robert Sormani

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**Approved by Superintendent**