



## Consent Item

**Date:** November 11, 2024

**Division:** Finance

**Subject:** Special Education Contracted Services, Materials, and Other Related Products and Services – Cooperative Contract(s)

### Background Information:

- This is a recommendation for Special Education Contracted Services, materials, and other related products and services utilizing cooperative contracts.
- If approved, LISD-eligible cooperative contracts will help supply providers that would be utilized at the District's sole discretion to help fill vacancies for positions such as, but not limited to, special education teachers, occupational therapists, physical therapists, braille transcribers, registered nurses, and behavioral therapists.
- This request to utilize LISD-eligible cooperative contracts helps LISD adhere to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), which requires the delivery of instructional, support, and related services that are determined necessary by the student's Individual Education Plan (IEP) to provide a Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE).
- To meet the requirements of IDEA in a district as large as LISD, it is necessary to provide multiple vendors in each specialty. These recommended professional service providers can also be requested by the student's parent(s) to satisfy their own Independent Education Evaluation (IEE). Should the parent request these services, LISD is obligated to meet their needs through specific requested vendors.
- If approved, LISD-eligible cooperative contracts would also help the Special Education Department with materials such as, but not limited to, adaptive equipment and materials, assistive technology, specialized curriculum, sensory materials, special education assessment materials, reinforcers for IEP goals, and hearing devices.
- The Board of Trustees previously awarded RFP #2832(A-D)-21 Special Education Contracted Services which is being presented for renewal at the November 2024 Board meeting for a term of December 2024 – December 2026.
- If approved, the District will have access to a wide range of providers, products, services, and pricing to help provide the best value.
- Best value involves considering several factors, which may include but are not limited to price, quality, availability, delivery timing, support, and other relevant factors.
- Interlocal Cooperative Contracts have gone through a competitive procurement process and comply with local, state, and federal procurement laws.

**Administrative Consideration:**

- All expenditures utilizing federal funds will still require a multi-step approval process that ensures federal allowability and local guideline adherence.
- Funds for these purchases and services will come from general operating, state, local, federal, grant funds and IDEA (224) federal funds dedicated to the Special Education operational costs for children with disabilities.
- Previous annual expenditures in this commodity:
  - 2023-2024: \$1,960,604
- Estimated annual expenditures for this bid commodity: \$2,000,000 but will not exceed the approved budget(s).
- This procurement complies with Section 44.031 of the Texas Education Code and EDGAR 2 CFR Part 200.

**Recommendations:**

- That the Lewisville ISD Board of Trustees approves the use of LISD-eligible cooperative contract(s) and their awarded providers for Special Education Contracted Services, Materials, and Other Related Products and Services, and the estimated annual expenditures for one year.

**Timeline/Report:**

- Term: December 2024 – December 2025