

Press Clippings 7/06/2022

The Examiner of Bartlett

U-46 Board to vote upon variety of expense items ---

7/06/2022

By Seth Hancock: Note – This story also ran in The Examiner of South Elgin and in The Examiner of Streamwood

The **Board of Education in School District U-46** is set to vote on \$2.3 million in contract renewals at its upcoming meeting on Monday, July 18.

The largest contract is for insurance split between CNA for property insurance coverage at \$592,800 and Illinois Public Risk Fund (IPRF) for excess workers' compensation coverage at \$261,175. The contract will be paid by the tort fund if approved.

"The district has retained Alliant/Mesirow Insurance Services as a professional broker to obtain and leverage quotes from reputable carriers in both the property and excess workers' compensation insurance markets for the 2022 renewal," the proposal states.

The district previously used Star Insurance for excess workers' compensation coverage opting for IPRF as "the most cost-effective option," the proposal states, while CNA remains the same provider for property insurance.

A three-year contract renewal with Tyler Technologies has a price tag of \$630,344 (education, operations and maintenance and transportation funds).

"The purpose of this contract is twofold," the proposal states. "First, the district currently uses Tyler Technologies' product Versatrans to route district students for both regular education and special education home to school transportation. The Versatrans product is also used to schedule extracurricular and athletic trips by both the campuses and Transportation. Second, the district currently uses Tyler Telematic GPS to track and monitor most district-owned vehicles. This includes vehicles assigned to the Transportation, Plant Operations, and Business Services departments."

Costing \$594,720 (education fund), the district is seeking a three-year contract renewal with Learning A-Z for English and Spanish online reading materials.

For a five-year contract renewal, the district is asking for \$252,500 (education fund) with Clever for its forms and workflow software.

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Series of expenses given Dist. U-46 Board approval ---

7/06/2022

By Seth Hancock: Note- This story also ran in The Examiner of South Elgin and in The Examiner of Streamwood

The **Board of Education in School District U-46** approved of \$7.3 million in expenditure items at its June 6 meeting.

The votes were 6-0, board member John Devereux was absent.

Two items were presented and approved that evening, including \$1.6 million from the education fund for a three-year contract with Pace Systems, Inc. for cybersecurity through CrowdStrike.

The proposal stated that the district needed to find a new cybersecurity vendor because its current cybersecurity and anti-virus provider, through Kaspersky Lab, “has been banned by the Department of Defense (DoD), U.S. General Administration, Homeland Security Department, and other government agencies.”

The reason for that ban is because Kaspersky is headquartered in Russia.

Bruce Phelps, director of business services, did say that the district’s contract with Kaspersky “is expiring” soon.

Also presented and approved was a \$112,000 contract (education fund) with Proximity Learning for summer school online instruction.

The proposal stated the district is “struggling to fill Summer School teaching vacancies,” and this “agreement will provide online instruction with certified teachers for students enrolled in these sections.... The cost of the agreement is not to exceed [\$112,000]. School District U-46 is in the process of finalizing summer school staffing. Thus, this cost could fluctuate slightly.”

The board approved of a contract totaling \$3.2 million, to be paid for by the nation’s taxpayers through federal grants, with the Boys and Girls Club of Elgin and Right at School for before and after school programs.

Also approved was \$629,940 (education fund) with Sentinel Technologies, Inc. for replacement core switches, \$110,000 (operations and maintenance fund) with EHS Industries, Inc. for asbestos abatement and lead mitigation at the Educational Services Center, \$84,374 (education fund) with Warehouse Direct for science tables at Streamwood High School, \$63,400 (education fund) with Zoom and \$33,240 (education fund) for

membership dues with the Illinois Association of School Boards, a taxpayer funded lobbyist group for government schools.

The board also approved, via a 6-0 vote, a resolution for renewal of membership in the IHSA, which governs high school athletics, and \$14.4 million in itemized bills.