

March 2016 Board Meeting Explanatory Notes

Item 3: Lit, Dark or Self-Provisioned Fiber 16-01-4850

Funding Source: M & O Funds (Anticipated ERate Reimbursement for the District)

This recommendation is made to fulfill the District's 2014 Technology Bond Goal 6 Install Technology Infrastructure in New Schools. The District initially filed a FCC Form 470 which starts the process for seeking funding for eligible services under ERate (more formally known as the Schools & Libraries Program). The District then issued 16-01-4850RFP Lit, Dark or Self-Provisioned Fiber. Two respondents submitted pricing for this RFP. This award will allow for Fiber to be run from the new schools (Cypress Park High School (2016), High School #12 (2017), Elementary # 55 (2017), Elementary #56 (2017), Middle School #19 (2019), Elementary School #57 (2019), Elementary School #58 (2020), and Middle School #20 (2021)) to the District's Enterprise Network. The committee's recommendation is to award to Phonoscope Lightwave, the District's current provider, for \$812,499.00. They offered the best value to the district proposing Dark Fiber. Dark Fiber is fiber optic infrastructure that is not yet in use by a service carrier or provider. Dark Fiber allows greater security, more reliability, and more scalability than Lit Fiber (fiber optic cable regularly being used to transmit data). Phonoscope Lightwave was the lowest priced vendor which met all of the program requirements for the Schools & Libraries ERate program. The District plans to submit all purchases and services under this RFP for potential ERate reimbursement. This RFP will allow for the new schools to be connected to the District's Network Infrastructure. Fiber optic cable will allow for information to be transmitted to and from the campus by light pulses.