

JACKSON PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT

Jackson, Mississippi
Date: September 21, 2021

**Board of Trustees
Jackson Public School District
Jackson, Mississippi**

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Presented for your review on the attached page(s) are the bid tabulations for the formal bid proposals which were received in response to the bid solicitations indicated below. Bids were publicly advertised and opened according to all legal requirements (Mississippi Code of 1972, §31-7-13). All bids were tabulated, analyzed and based upon compliance with the specifications; the "lowest and best" bids were determined. Recommendations concerning the award of bids received for each bid category are contained on the attached page(s). Please consider recommendations for the following:

Bid Number	Opening Date	Bid Name
RFP 2021-01	03-01-21	Performance Management/Training System (Rejection)
Bid 3192	07-08-21	Chromebook Computers Only
RFP 2021-14	06-08-21	Lead Partner for Praxis Support

It is recommended that the following action be taken by the Board of Trustees:

- A. **AN ORDER** be adopted ratifying the prior solicitation of bid proposals for the equipment, supplies, commodities and/or services in each bid category indicated above.

- B. **AN ORDER** be adopted authorizing the Chief Financial Officer or her designee to issue purchase orders and/or execute contracts and all related documents on behalf of the Board of Trustees to the vendors deemed to have submitted the "lowest and best" bids as indicated on the attached pages.

- C. **AN ORDER** be adopted to reject the bid of bidders who failed to comply with bid requirements, for the reason(s) indicated with each bid category, on the attached pages.

- D. **AN ORDER** be adopted to authorize the informal purchase of items according to all legal requirements and to the extent allowed under the law (Mississippi Code 1972, Annotated, §31-7-13(b)) for which no formal bids were received as indicated in the detailed support documentation on file in the Business Office.

Submitted by:
Margaret Purnell
Chief Financial Officer

Recommendation approved by:
Dr. Errick L. Greene, Superintendent
Superintendent of Schools

Information about the Content and Formatting of the Attached Bid Tabulation Sheet(s)

Pursuant to the legal requirements as outlined in the Mississippi Code 1972, Annotated, §31-7-13(d), all bid proposals received were compared to the written bid specifications and the recommendation to purchase or for rejection is indicated on the following pages, as per the manner prescribed below.

Recommendation to Purchase:

The recommendation to purchase from or award a contract to any vendor, is indicated on the attached tabulation sheet(s) by placing "Low Bid" to the right of the vendor's name/pricing and bolding the information.

Rejection of an Item or an Entire Bid:

The law requires that the District clearly state why in each instance that the lowest bid received is not the recommended "lowest and best" bid. The specific reason that an item or service, or a vendor's entire bid proposal, must be deemed "irregular" or "non-compliant" with the written bid specifications and therefore cannot be recommended for purchase, is indicated on the attached tabulation sheet(s) by drawing a line through the vendor's name/pricing and indicating the rejection reason beside the item.

Unit Price Differences Between the Lowest and the "Lowest and Best" Bid:

The unit price of all items is indicated and a difference between the bid unit price of the proposed item being rejected and the unit price of the item being recommended for purchase as the "lowest and best" can easily be computed from the data on the following pages. For each item, please see the attached tabulation sheet(s) for the bid name and number and opening date, item description, unit of measure, quantity purchased, and the unit or total pricing submitted by all vendors offering bid proposals.

Minority Vendor Participation in the Bid Process:

At the direction of the Board, all minority and women owned and operated vendors offering bid proposals are identified on the attached tabulation sheets, for informational purposes only. The following coding has been used:

- "M" Minority (Male) owned and operated business
- "W" Women (Non-minority) owned and operated business
- "B" Minority (Women) owned and operated business
- "N" Non-Minority owned and operated business

Bid: RFP 2021-01 (03-01-21) – Performance Management/Training System

Funding Source:

Recommendation: Dr. Kimberly Smith/ Dr. William Merritt

	Vendor	Location	Amount
N	Frontline Technologies Group, LLC	Malvern, PA	\$281,589.70

Only one vendor submitted a proposal.

It was determined that this service was not needed.

Bid 3192 (07-08-21) Chromebook, Laptop & Desktop Computers Only

Funding Source: Various

Recommendation: Hope Thompson/Erin Mason

	Vendor	Location	Abbreviation
N	Archangel Tablets	N Miami, FL	Archangel
M	KIBS	Columbus, MS	KIBS
N	ConvergeOne	Ridgeland, MS	ConvergeOne
N	CDWG	Vernon Hills, IL	CDWG
N	Synergetics DCS, Inc.	Starkville, MS	Synergetics

Item 1 Chromebook

Archangel	\$465.00
KIBS	\$468.00
ConvergeOne	\$474.00
CDWG	\$497.00
Synergetics	\$530.75

Laptops and desktop computers were approved at the August 17, 2021, Board of Trustees meeting.

RFP 2021-14 (06-08-21) Lead Partner for Praxis Support

Funding Source:

Recommendation: Dr. Tommy Nalls

	Vendor	Location	Amount
N	University Instructors, LLC	Staunton, VA	\$ 412,500.00
N	Williams Consulting	Byram, MS	\$50,000.00
B	EduStars, LLC	Madison, MS	\$204,750.00

An RFP review committee was developed to review submissions from University Instructors, LLC, Williams Consulting, and EduStars, LLC.

University Instructors provided a combined proposal cost per individual at \$2,750.00. This brought their total for 150 participants to \$412,500.00. While their proposal was detailed and contained data supporting their ability to support the passage of praxis exams, the exams for which JPS specifically requested support are not supported by University instructors. UI would need to develop courses for the Praxis tests needed for certification in Mississippi, and there is no current data available to support how successful test prep for those currently un-supported tests would be.

Williams Consulting provided a combined proposal cost at \$50,000.00. While their proposal was the cheapest, it focused on support for Praxis Core mainly, and contained no data supporting their ability to support the passage of the exams for which JPS specifically requested support. Williams consulting is un-proven in their ability to provide support for the 5018, 5024, and 5354 Praxis Subject Area exams, and provided no data in their proposal related to success rate, which was a proposal submission requirement.

EduStars, LLC provided a combined proposal cost at \$204,750.00. Upon reviewing the proposal, EduStars provided a detailed curriculum outline, pacing, and resources that have been developed specifically for passage of the 5018, 5024, and 5354 exams. They also provided data supporting passing rates of these exams by participants, including JPS employees that averaged a 98% pass rate. While EduStars did not have the lowest bid, the detail and evidence that was provided to address our specific need gave us the confidence we needed to select EduStars as the recipient of RFP 2021-04: Lead partner for Praxis Support.