

ANCHORAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

ASD MEMORANDUM #171 (2007-2008)

January 28, 2008

TO: SCHOOL BOARD

FROM: OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

SUBJECT: AWARD OF CONTRACT: BARTLETT HIGH SCHOOL RADIO  
COMMUNICATION ENHANCEMENTS

*ASD Goal: Establish and maintain a supportive and effective learning environment by providing safe, caring, barrier-free schools. Effective consultation with community to ensure wise use of financial resources and responsible construction and maintenance of facilities, and effective communication with students, staff, parents, community and government at all levels.*

RECOMMENDATION:

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to award a contract for the Bartlett High School Communication Enhancement project to Motorola Inc. in the amount of \$183,189.

PERTINENT FACTS:

The District's high schools and middle schools are experiencing undependable radio reception within the buildings and on the school grounds, to the Police Dispatch Center and the patrol units. The hand held radio reception and communication is dependent upon the school's construction, as well as the equipment's location within the school and on the site. It can be unreliable, inconsistent or in some cases nonexistent. The lack of dependability compromises and poses a risk to the safety and security of our students, staff, public, school security staff, School Resource Officers and other Anchorage Police Department Officers. The radios experiencing difficulties today are the emergency radios (also referred to as security radios), and the police radios.

The technical challenges to identifying the extent of the problem at a school, designing an economical solution, the installation of the fix and testing it, are very complex issues. Initially the District contracted with a local engineering firm, but unfortunately the complexity of the problem and the very specialized

engineering skills required were not available within the firm. The District became aware that the Department of Defense and the State of Alaska selected Motorola Inc, through a competitive proposal process, for development of the Alaska Land Mobile Radio (ALMR) system in 2002. In 2006, the Municipality of Anchorage selected Motorola, Inc. to provide the Anchorage Wide Area Radio Network (AWARN). Motorola, Inc., after evaluation of their technical experience and skills to solve this very complex problem, was determined to be the only contractor able to accomplish this work

Motorola, Inc. is a worldwide radio communication company that not only designs and manufactures radio communication equipment but designs and implements solutions to communication problems. The selection of Motorola will benefit the District. With access to Motorola's technical strengths in resolving our communications problems economically, and with their involvement in the ALMR and AWARN radio systems they will be able to design a solution that will function today with little or no modification required when ALMR and AWARN are placed in operation. School Board procurement policy 725.131.e, authorizes an exemption from formal competitive procurement procedures when the goods or services are available from local vendors on State of Alaska, or Municipality of Anchorage, or Federal GSA Contracts.

Bartlett High School is the school with the least dependable radio communications. Motorola has investigated, performed radio frequency testing and designed a school communication enhancement project to resolve the radio communication challenges at Bartlett High School. The technology is complicated, but in general will consist of the installation and integration of signal amplifiers, directional antennas, omni-directional antennas and cross band repeaters. This design should be thought of as a demonstration project. Upon completion of installation the system will undergo extensive testing and if necessary further refinements until performance is acceptable. The solution will support both internal and external radio communication. This will provide the design model for the future radio communication enhancement projects at the remaining High and Middle Schools. Other funding is available to accomplish these enhancements at Chugiak, Dimond, Eagle River, East, Service, South and West High Schools and Begich and Clark Middle Schools. These enhancements when implemented will not only resolve the day-to-day communication problems at the Schools but provide dependable communication during a city wide disaster at community shelter schools.

BUDGET SUMMARY

Construction (Design/Build)	\$183,189
Construction Contingency	18,319
Other	<u>23,492</u>
Total Project Funding	<u>\$ 225,000</u>

CERTIFICATION OF FUNDS:

Funds Description:

- (01) General Fund (2005-2006)
- (106401) Major Maintenance Projects
- (3080) Contractual Services Building

	<u>Fund</u>	<u>Funding Source</u>	<u>Account Code</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Maintenance	01	106401	3080	\$183,189
			Total:	<u>\$183,189</u>

CC: GV/RA/PC/JA/MP/jg

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