



September 14, 2011

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Dear Gary,

I wanted to take a moment to express my appreciation and share something with you as we kick-off another Bond Program. It is hard to believe that we are already underway with the planning and execution of the 2011 Bond Program! As you know, we have been involved in a lot of interviews lately. In the process of selecting a program manager and a construction manager-at-risk, we included a specific question about your firm in the interviews. The companies that have worked with your firm provided specific examples of your firm's high quality. The companies that have not worked with your firm certainly knew of you and were aware of the high regard that the industry holds for your firm. It only affirmed what I already knew, yet it was a great feeling to hear it from the perspective of others who see your work.

I don't know if you have a copy of our recommendation to hire your firm for the 2011 Bond Program, but I thought I would share it again for your review. When we first hired your firm in 2004 for the 2005 Bond Program, the recommendations spoke of expertise, knowledge, attention to detail, excellent performance, focus on relationships, and strong commitment to the district and its needs. Now, seven years and a second bond program later, we continue to see those recommendations first-hand in your work with our staff, in our schools, and as part of our community. I continue to appreciate your firm's partnership with our school district. The work that we have already begun on the current bond program continues to affirm my belief that Huckabee & Associates is a high-caliber firm in all facets.

Regards,



Paula E. Barbaroux, J.D. RTSBA
Chief Operations Officer

Encl: Recommendation for Selection of an Architectural and Engineering Firm

Grapevine-Colleyville Independent School District

Board Information Item

Information
Packet

Board Agenda
Information

Board Agenda
Action

Board Agenda
Consent

04/27/2009

Subject:

Act on Selection of an Architectural and Engineering Firm

Contact Person:

Paula Barbaroux, Chief Operations Officer

Policy/Code:

Government Code 2254 – Professional Services Procurement Act

Board Goal:

Summary:

Under the Professional Services Procurement Act, Government Code 2254 (PSPA), the District must first select the provider of professional services based on qualifications. Once a provider has been selected, the District may negotiate a fee for services. The cost of professional services is not competitively bid. The PSPA is silent as to the length of any engagement for services.

In 2004, GCISD underwent a detailed process for the evaluation and selection of an architectural and engineering firm that could provide full bond programming services with experience in both new construction and renovations. Huckabee and Associates, Inc. (Huckabee) was selected. As GCISD enters the final phases of the 2005 Bond Program and considers the next bond program, the recommendation is to again select Huckabee to provide these services. The primary services include facility assessment, construction and bond programming estimating, selection of other professional services, technical specifications, design, project manual development, general contractor proposal evaluation, construction oversight, and financial and project status reporting.

The recommendation to select Huckabee is based on several strong performance factors:

- Five years of excellent performance with GCISD
- Successful bond programming in all facets of the 2005

Bond Program

- Reliable estimating
- Proven expertise with renovations and small projects
- Proven expertise with new construction design
- Excellent specifications and plan details
- Knowledge of the construction industry and trends
- Responsiveness to the District and flexible programming
- Strong communication with the District
- Focus on the District and its best interests
- Knowledge of District facilities and its personnel
- Strong positive relationships with District personnel
- Continued positive references beyond GCISD

Huckabee recently was recognized in the American School Board Journal 2009 in the “Learning by Design” competition for their transformational renovation of Waxahachie Global High School, a 1917 facility. (See ASBJ, page 130 in issue 18/2009) The firm was praised by industry experts for transforming the facility “into a state-of-the art, cutting edge high school while maintaining its original design characteristics and preserving its historical significance.”

The District checked the performance of other architectural firms that had responded to the District’s request for services in 2004. Although most had favorable performance references, none were any stronger than Huckabee’s performance in GCISD. The District previously worked with some of the other architectural firms. Based on Huckabee’s performance with GCISD and in the interest of continuity, the recommendation is to approve the selection of Huckabee and Associates, Inc., to update the 2004 facility assessment, provide bond programming services, and to design and implement a facility improvement program following passage of a successful bond election in the future.

Attachments:

American School Board Journal 2009 Recognition

Recommendation:

The recommendation is for the Board of Trustees to select Huckabee and Associates, Inc., as the most highly qualified provider of architectural services based on demonstrated competence and qualifications, to update the 2004 facility assessment, provide bond programming services, and to design and implement a facility improvement program following passage of a successful bond election in the future, and to authorize the Administration to negotiate a contract with Huckabee and Associates, Inc., for a fair and reasonable price.