



**DATE:** February 28, 2024

**TO:** Board of Education

**FROM:** Mrs. Kerstin Kramer, Superintendent Chief Learning Officer

**SUBJECT:** Award Bid and Approve Contract with K S Telecom, Inc. to Provide Equipment and Services for Cabling Infrastructure under the ERATE Program

**PRESENTED BY:** Todd Rivera, Assistant Superintendent Chief Business Officer

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### **ACTION REQUESTED**

Award bid and approve contract with K S Telecom, Inc. to provide equipment and services for cabling infrastructure under the ERATE program.

### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

ERATE is a federally funded program that provides discounts to schools for telecommunications and telecommunications related services (including internet). The program operates through the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC). Each year, TTUSD submits applications to USAC to receive discounts on telecommunications services such as internet/ethernet services (known as Category I Services) and internal connections/equipment maintenance (Category II Services). The level of discount is determined by the percentage of free and reduced students at each school site. Our current level of discount is 70%. The funding is generally delivered through reimbursements or credits on our telecommunications bills. The District is required to bid all eligible telecommunications-related services/equipment if ERATE funding is requested.

TTUSD advertised a Request for Proposal (RFP) to provide cabling infrastructure at two of our school sites. The project consists of cabling the schools with single mode fiber (or equivalent) and re-terminating existing fiber with LC pigtails also supplying all additional equipment for a complete project for both school sites. The district will be responsible for approximately 30% of the cost for eligible sites.

The District received three (3) RFPs and evaluated each proposal using predetermined criteria. K S Telecom, Inc. received the highest evaluation and was selected as the winning bidder. If all cabling listed in the bid is installed, the total contract cost would be \$64,570. The ERATE

eligible cost would be \$45,199 with ERATE covering 70%, and the non ERATE eligible cost would be \$19,371.

**RESOURCES REQUIRED:** Approximately \$19,371 from General Fund

**PREPARED BY:** Laura Rowe, Business Services Coordinator, for Todd Rivera, Assistant Superintendent Chief Business Officer

Attachments:

- K S Telecom, Inc. Request for Proposal Submittal
- Bid Evaluation Sheet
- TTUSD Agreement