

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF HARFORD COUNTY

INFORMATIONAL REPORT

DECISION ON AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR MODIFICATIONS TO THE FOUNDATIONS OF TECHNOLOGY (FOT) LAB AT PATTERSON MILL MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL

NOVEMBER 9, 2009

Background Information:

The Purchasing Department, on behalf of the Planning and Construction Department, is requesting a decision by the Board of Education to award a contract to Hess Construction & Engineering Services, 804 West Diamond Avenue, Suite 300, Gaithersburg MD 20878, to furnish all design, labor, material, and equipment to modify the Foundations of Technology (FOT) Lab at Patterson Mill Middle/High School. Modifications include removal of partitions, expanding the fabrication shop size, relocating sinks, connecting ducts, and upgrading the electrical service.

Discussion:

During the development of the Educational Specifications for the new Patterson Mill Middle/High School, Harford County Public Schools' staff and its planning team worked with the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) in an effort to plan and design adequate space to meet the needs for the FOT program. At such time, the FOT program was being evaluated by MSDE and Harford County Public Schools, and it was decided that the activities that were to be included in the curriculum would require small fabrication areas in conjunction with larger areas, which emphasized the use of computers during instructional activities. Subsequent to this decision, the FOT program and instructional requirements were adjusted. As the result of this adjustment, the configuration of the existing FOT lab is not compatible with current program requirements. The proposed alterations are intended to reconfigure the existing FOT lab to meet current MSDE requirements.

Due to the nature of the work required, a decision was made to use the on-call Job Order Contracts. The lowest priced proposal was submitted by Hess Construction in the amount of \$142,544.00. Hess Construction advised that they have a goal of obtaining 20% minority participation on this contract, in accordance with IAC and State of Maryland minority business enterprise procedures.

Funds are available in the capital equipment account for the Patterson Mill Middle/High School project.

Superintendent's Recommendation:

The Superintendent of Schools recommends that the Board of Education approve a contract to modify the FOT labs at Patterson Mill Middle/High School, in the amount of \$142,544.00, to Hess Construction & Engineering Services.