NORTH EAST INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Date: March 23, 2026

Presenter: Deb Caldwell
Barry Lanford, Executive Director, Facility Maintenance and Operations

Subject: Consideration and Approval of HVAC Chiller Suppliers for the 2025 Bond Program

Related Page(s): Attachments

ACTION ITEM

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

On November 4, 2025, North East ISD voters approved the 2025 Bond Program totaling $482,990,000 to address districtwide priorities including safety and security, technology, facility infrastructure, and athletic improvements. The bond includes replacement of R22 chillers and end-of-life chillers. Chillers have a long-lead time and scheduling installation often occurs during a limited period of time when campuses are not operational.

The District's HVAC Evaluation Committee, comprised of six staff members from the Facility Maintenance Department, used a multi-step process to evaluate HVAC chiller products -- 1. Independent evaluation of the products to award up to 50 points; 2. In-person product demonstrations; and 3. Site visits to area schools and businesses to inspect and observe chillers and talk with personnel regarding performance, maintenance, costs, etc. A total of four systems were part of the evaluation process. At the conclusion of the evaluation, two HVAC chiller brands are recommended to the Board of Trustees for project assignments of the 2025 Bond Program.

ADMINISTRATIVE CONSIDERATION

In pursuit of best value and timeliness, District staff recommends purchasing chillers directly from manufacturers rather than obtaining equipment through Design Build firms. Board Policy CV requires that purchases which exceed $100,000 in total cost be approved by the Board of Trustees.

BUDGETARY CONSIDERATION

Funds for awarding of HVAC chiller purchases will be provided by the 2025 Bond program.

ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATION

The District recommends that the Board of Trustees approve the list of HVAC chiller suppliers in support of the 2025 Bond Program.

BOARD ACTION REQUIRED

Approval/Disapproval