



Sharon Williams, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

To: RIMSD 41 Board of Education
From: Dr. Sharon Williams
Cabinet Champion: Annaka Whiting, Chief Financial Officer
Date: April 14, 2026
Re: Rock Island Academy Paging System

The District is completing a building addition at Rock Island Academy, making it necessary to update the school's paging and communication system to ensure full coverage and functionality throughout the expanded facility. The existing system does not adequately support the addition. Completing this work in coordination with construction minimizes disruption and avoids future installation costs.

The District currently works with Hughes Telephone for all districtwide communication systems. Illinois School Code allows for exceptions to competitive bidding for telecommunications and interconnect equipment, software, and services. Continuing work with Hughes Telephone allows the District to maintain consistency with existing infrastructure and ensures compatibility, reliability, and continuity of service.

The scope of work includes removal of obsolete equipment as necessary, installation of an integrated paging and communication system, testing, and training to ensure full functionality throughout the entire building, including the addition. The total cost of the project is \$46,323.35.

Although Hughes Telephone provides routine and recurring communication services that do not individually require Board approval, approval is recommended for this project for transparency and documentation purposes, as the District's cumulative expenditures with this vendor during the fiscal year will exceed the applicable purchasing threshold. Hughes Telephone has been utilized for similar communication system work in the District, including the Eugene Field addition.

It is recommended that the Board of Education approve Hughes Telephone, 4123 24th Avenue, Moline, IL 61265, to install, test, and train for the new paging system at Rock Island Academy for \$46,323.35.

Investment Period: N/A
Total Investment: \$46,323.35
Funding Source: Capital Improvement Fund

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