

Board of Trustees Agenda Item

Board Meeting Date: August 29, 2011

Title of Item: Authorization to Purchase Upgrades to the De Anza College DigitalSky Planetarium and Multimedia System without Advertising for Bids

Background and Analysis:

On June 18, 2007 the Board authorized District Purchasing to issue a purchase order to Sky-Skan, Inc. for a DigitalSky Planetarium and Multimedia System as a sole source purchase.

In order to upgrade the DigitalSky Planetarium and Multimedia system, De Anza College is now requesting a sole source purchase from Sky-Skan, Inc. of twelve (12) Definiti computers including software installation, four power distribution units, equipment installation, and three days of on-site Digital Sky 2 software training.

This purchase will replace aging computers that are servers for the projection system. The new computers will optimally run the latest Digital Sky 2 software. They are specially configured computers tested, warranted, and supported by Sky-Skan. Since this is an integral part of the Sky-Skan DigitalSky Planetarium and Multimedia System, the only source for these items is Sky-Skan Inc.

The total cost for the equipment is \$137,255.01. This amount exceeds the legally mandated bid threshold of \$78,900.00. However, if the District were to delay acquisition to allow the necessary 90 days to complete a formal sealed bid process, there would be no public benefit because Sky-Skan, Inc. would be the only qualified bidder. Therefore, Purchasing Services recommends that the Board waive the bidding requirement.

The system will be purchased with funds from the Planetarium Foundation Account.

Recommendation: The Board is requested to authorize the Director of Purchasing Services to issue a purchase order to Sky-Skan, Inc. for upgrades to the De Anza College DigitalSky Planetarium and Multimedia System in the amount of \$137,255.01 without advertising for competitive bids.

Submitted by:	Carmen Redmond, Director, Purchasing Services and Material Services
Additional contact names:	Caron Blinick, Karl Von Ahnen, Annette Perez
Is backup provided?	No