

GLENBROOK HIGH SCHOOLS
Office of the Assistant Superintendent for Business Affairs
Regular Meeting – Monday, May 14, 2012

TO: Dr. Michael Riggle

FROM: Hillarie Siena

DATE: May 14, 2012

RE: Discussion/Action: Financial Software Replacement

It is recommended that the Board of Education approve the purchase of Skyward School Business Suite software to replace the J|School financial software system and the iVantage Human Resources software system.

Background

In 2002, in collaboration with Acrux, LLC, Glenbrook developed and implemented the J|School financial software system. In 2006, Acrux, LLC went bankrupt. Since 2006, Glenbrook technical staff has provided total J|School technical support, and the system is limited in its capacity for further development. The search for replacement software began in 2007, but was delayed due to the implementation of HR and student information systems. The J|School system has far outlived its useful life and no longer provides the capability to operate in compliance with several regulatory reporting mandates. In 2010, the search for new financial/HR software was renewed. With the assistance of Dr. Steve Caliendo and Mr. Marcus Thimm, eleven vendors were vetted and interviewed. Four of these vendors were invited to present on-site demonstrations to a core user/tech group. From this group, two finalist vendors were selected for further in-depth review by both user group and tech group committees, with the objective of selecting software that would integrate both the finance and HR systems into one combined database. An RFQ was sent to each of the finalist vendors requesting a 5-year price quote for a hosted system:

Skyward School Business Suite	\$275,030
Infinite Visions	\$390,908

Skyward School Business Suite

- Established school software in the Illinois market – 228 schools since 1980
- 24/7 support network
- Established process for migration of data
- Hosted system eliminates costs for purchase and maintenance of servers
- Hosted system provides all upgrades and is always current
- Potential for data redundancy and shared services with all Northfield Township schools
- Potential to leverage cloud resources & internet-based services