

Action Item

Subject:

Food Service Management Company Services Bid

Background:

The District has contracted with Aramark as the food service management company for the past seven school years. The current agreement is a one-year contract, which began FY17, with the option to renew each year, for the next four years, through FY20. Over the past year, the District has noted a decrease in student participation, particularly, breakfast. A comparison of meals served from FY16 to FY17 shows a decrease, even though there is no cost for breakfast and/or lunch due to the District participating in the Community Eligibility Program (CEP), which began in FY15. Other challenges with Aramark were the lack of a variety of food choices offered to students, as well as the changes in personnel during FY17.

In March 2017, the District began the bid process for a food service management company for the 2017-2018 school year. On May 3, 2017, the notice was posted in the Chicago Tribune and on June 5, 2017 the following companies responded:

- Aramark	\$1,152,232.97
- Arbor Management Inc.	\$1,213,342.06
- Ceres Food Group	\$1,222,185.08
- Chartwells	\$1,159,776.28

Administration's Analysis:

Aramark has developed a strong working relationship with the administrators of the District and has always been responsive of the District's needs when addressing food service concerns. Aramark has implemented the grab-n-go breakfast at all three schools, they have assisted with bringing the CEP program to the District, as well as assisted with the facility renovation plans to the student cafeteria at Proviso East.

In addition to being the lowest bidder, Aramark has committed to refreshing and revitalizing the student dining hall experience by focusing on student favorites as well as an increase in the variety of meal options; branded marketing to give serving areas a "retail-feel;" expanding the success of grab-and-go at breakfast to the lunch periods; and a new management team with extensive culinary and restaurant experience.

Statute, Administrative Policy or Board Rules Statement:

All contracts for supplies, materials, or work involving expenditures in excess of \$25,000 shall be made in accordance with the State law bidding procedure, unless specifically exempted, 105, ILCS 5/10-20.21.

Implementation Plan:

Aramark will begin the one-year contract August 1, 2017 through July 31, 2018, with the option to renew each year, for the next four years, through FY22.

Administration's Recommendation:

That the Board of Education of Proviso Township High Schools District 209 accepts the Superintendent's recommendation to accept the bid of Aramark in an amount not to exceed \$1,152,232.97