

June 19 , 2003

03-158

GRANT EXEMPTION TO PURCHASE NETWORK EQUIPMENT  
FROM THE OREGON EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY  
CONSORTIUM (OETC)

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FINANCIAL  
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REPORT: As part of the approved Five (5) Year Telecommunications Plan, the College intends to replace or upgrade all network switches and routers to the next generation of Gigabyte Ethernet switching at all PCC main campuses and training centers. These electronic devices control and manage the flow of electronic information between PCC locations and between PCC and the outside world. The new network routers and switches will be installed in all College owned buildings in seventy-four (74) locations throughout the district. The current budget estimates for this network equipment are \$353,234 for the active electronic upgrades, and \$935,437 for new equipment, for a total of \$1,288,671.

The Oregon Educational Technology Consortium (OETC) is comprised of over five-hundred (500) educational institutions, school districts and other educational nonprofit organizations primarily in Oregon. It is an incorporated, not-for-profit organization dedicated to maximizing the value of educational technology to its members by working with all software and hardware vendors to procure the most effective and appropriate technological resources at the lowest possible prices.

Many of the member educational institutions exempt all of their purchases from OETC due to the quality assurance and low-cost certainty for their technology purchasing. PCC wishes to do so also, specifically for the acquisition of this network equipment over the next five (5) years to correspond with our Five (5) Year

Telecommunications Plan, in the amount of \$1,288,671. Per ORS 279.017 (2), it is unlikely that granting this exemption will encourage favoritism in the awarding of public contracts or substantially diminish competition for public contracts, due to the fact that OETC works with virtually all hardware and software vendors to obtain the best products at the lowest prices for the consortium members.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Directors grant an exemption for the College to purchase next generation network equipment from OETC in the amount of \$1,288,671, per the College's approved Five (5) Year Telecommunications Plan.

These expenditures will be primarily from the general fund, but will also be from bond funds for new construction and remodeled buildings.

Director Anderson moved to approve Resolutions 03-149 through 03-162 and Resolutions 03-164 through 03-168 by consent agenda and it passed unanimously.