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To: Board of Education  
From: Mark Maus  
Re: Lease Purchase Counsel Recommendation  
Date: April 16, 2025

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Members of the Board of Education,

With the work the district engages in with Navitas, there is a need to identify lease purchase/certificate of participation (COP) counsel to represent Smithville School District. We published a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) and received two responses. After reviewing the submissions and collaborating with Raymond James, we recommend approving an agreement with Gilmore Bell to represent the district. Gilmore Bell has a history working with the district, and this will benefit the district as we continue to make improvements to the district.

There is no cost for Gilmore Bell's services until we issue a COP.