

# WHEATLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD AGENDA ITEM

CONSENT  
 ACTION  
 REPORT/INFORMATION

**BOARD MEETING DATE:** March 12, 2026  
**BOARD AGENDA NUMBER:** 5.3  
**BOARD AGENDA ITEM:** ERATE Projects 2026-2027  
**DEPARTMENT:** Technology  
**CONTACT PERSON:** Craig Guensler

## REPORT/PROPOSAL:

The Schools and Libraries Program of the Universal Service Fund, commonly known as “Erate” provides discounts to assist schools and libraries in the United States in obtaining affordable telecommunications, internet access and internal connections. We are in the process of applying for Funding which will provide discounts for the 2026-2027 school year.

Funding is available for Internet access, telecommunications and in some cases internal connections and internal connection maintenance. Discounts for support depend on the level of poverty and the urban/rural status of the population served. Wheatland School District meets the eligibility requirements.

In order to participate in the Erate program, we must periodically solicit competitive proposals for these services following a very prescriptive process defined by the Schools and Libraries Program. We have completed the bidding requirement of this program and are bringing you the resulting contracts for approval:

KS Telecom

Category 2: Cabling

Contract Term: 1 Time Purchase April 1, 2026-September 30, 2027

### Estimated Fiscal Impact:

The estimated cost for the **Directional Boring contract is \$43,670.00**, which includes a **10% contingency of \$3,970.00**. If directional boring is determined to be infeasible due to site conditions, the project will proceed utilizing the **Trenching contract in the amount of \$73,139.00**, which includes a **10% contingency of \$6,649.00.-**

## SUPERINTENDENT’S RECOMMENDATIONS:

**Approve as submitted**