



North Kitsap School District

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- Meeting:** November 8, 2018
- Category:** Management Report
- Subject:** Kingston High School Emergency Radio system
- Goal(s):** Effective and Efficient Operations
- Budget Implication:** TBD, over \$100k but expected to be within small works roster guidelines, as part of the security upgrades of the Capital Levy
- Summary:** Since construction, KHS has had issues with handheld radio reception and cell phone use inside of the buildings due to the construction and materials used. Handheld UHF radios work; however, because of the difference in the radio wave lengths, VHF radios do not. Unfortunately, emergency responders, both law enforcement and EMS utilize VHF radios. Law enforcement and EMS can communicate with Kitsap 911 (formerly CENCOM) from outside of the building, but once they enter either one of the buildings at KHS, they lose the ability to communicate with Kitsap 911 and each other. The Kitsap County Sheriff's Department voiced significant concerns about this communication barrier when NKSD began negotiating for a SRO with them last spring. The inability to communication with Kitsap 911 and/or each other creates significant safety concerns not only for our future SRO, but also for all personnel that would be responding to KHS in the event of a large scale emergency.
- NKSD began working with radio vendors last spring to identify the appropriate solution to correct the radio communication issue at KHS. A number of lower cost alternatives were unsuccessfully attempted. It became evident that the only option that would be supported by Kitsap 911, and the International Fire Code, was to install a Distributed Antenna System (DAS) within each building that feeds the radio signal through a Bidirectional Amplifier (BDA) on the roof(s) of KHS. This system would allow law enforcement and EMS to communicate with each other and with Kitsap 911 regardless of their location on the KHS campus. It would also allow NKSD to utilize handheld VHF radios across our district. NKSD currently utilizes VHF radios at every campus except KHS. However, this system would not increase the reliability of cell phone use while inside of KHS. The DAS/BDA system needed to correct the handheld radio issue is different than the system needed to enable cell phone usage.
- Recommendation:** Advertise a RFP for emergency radio system design and installation

Strategic Goals

- I. Success for All Students
 - a. Deliver instruction aligned to standards
 - b. Use instructional strategies to maximize student engagement and learning
 - c. Create safe and nurturing learning environments
 - d. Provide a variety of opportunities to meet the diverse needs of all students
- II. Stakeholder Support and Satisfaction
 - a. Optimize communication strategies which enhance transparency
 - b. Continuous district improvement based on stakeholder input

- c. Increase stakeholder engagement
- III. Effective and Efficient Operations
 - a. Responsible allocation and expenditure of funds to meet district goals
 - b. Responsible stewardship of district assets
 - c. Clear and effective management systems