



Zion-Benton Township High School District 126  
Office of Business Services

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## MEMO

April 22, 2025

To: Board of Education  
From: Dr. Jesse Rodriguez, Superintendent  
Dr. Jim Woell, CSBO  
Re: Skyward Financial System Recommendation

The District has been looking at moving to a new financial data system to replace our current SDS system which is very outdated and not adaptable to the changing technologies required for reporting and compliance.

On March 11, 2025, the Business and Human Resource Office Teams met with representatives from Skyward - Skyward is our current student information system - and participated in a 3 hour demonstration and overview of what Skyward can bring to District 126 on the Financial and Human Resource side of operations.

It is the recommendation that we move forward with Skyward and begin the conversion process with the goal of going live in the new system beginning with the 2026-2027 school year. This will be a long process and we want to ensure that we take the time to do it correctly.

The initial cost for conversion, data migration, training and professional development as well as the first year licensing fee will be \$134,690.00. The annual fee will be \$14,067 after the first year. This is slightly higher but very similar to the cost of our annual licensure with SDS. However, the quality and capability of the Skyward system is far superior to SDS and will have a very positive impact on operational functionality and systems in both the Business and HR Offices. It is also incredibly user friendly for staff.

Recommendation: That the Board of Education Approve the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the change in financial systems to Skyward Qmulative from SDS and the initial investment of \$134,690.