



# De Queen Public Schools

PO Box 950  
De Queen, Arkansas 71832



**B.2**

Ms. Garrity,

Per Section 22 of Act 167 of the 2024 Fiscal Session (19-11-249 (d)) we are submitting a request for a waiver to the Executive Subcommittee of the Legislative Council. Please let us know what we need to do to proceed with this waiver.

Thank you,

Jason N. Sanders  
Superintendent



# De Queen Public Schools

PO Box 950  
De Queen, Arkansas 71832



August 19, 2025

To Whom it may Concern:

RE: De Queen Additional Requested Information

Waiver Requesting to Exceed Purchasing Construction Amount in Accordance to 19-11-249 (d)

Name of School District: De Queen

Name and Title of Person Submitting Report: Superintendent Jason Sanders

Contact Information of Person Submitting Report: 903-277-7721

[jsanders@dequeenleopards.org](mailto:jsanders@dequeenleopards.org)

Location of Project: De Queen Elementary

Reason for Waiver Request: Project total is projected to be over \$1,000,000. Rationale information for our waiver request was sent with my original email.

Description and Scope of Project – New Metal Standing Seam Roof installed on approximately 56,000 sq ft of the current De Queen Elementary.

Total Estimated Budget Cost - \$1,850,000.00. De Queen Schools has been funded by the state in the amount of \$1,381,079.34 toward this approved project.

Contractor/Vendor: Kirk Roofing

Contractor/Vendor Contact Information: 501-796-2016 (office)

Vendor Contract #: 181101

Name of Cooperative Purchasing Program: Tips/Taps

Proposed Start Date of Project: October 1<sup>st</sup> 2025



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## Executive Subcommittee Possible Questions

### **Why is De Queen Schools requesting to award the construction contract through the TIPS process instead of the competitive bid process?**

We feel that there are multiple benefits for us using the TIPS process at this time. First, we have a long working relationship with Brian Kirk and Kirk Roofing. We have been using them on our re-roof and roof repair projects at De Queen since 2017. Kirk Roofing has offered us excellent work at a fair market price. Before we partnered with Kirk Roofing we have had a long history of poor roof work in our district. We feel that this Tips vendor has a reputable and excellent track record across Arkansas. With the end of summer projects being wrapped up and us going into the start of a new school year we are extremely busy. We feel that the Tips process is a simple and streamlined process that can allow us to begin this project as soon as possible. Tips vendors are vetted and offer competitive pre-bid quotes that comply with all state and bid requirements.

### **If the answer relates to timing and that the use of the bidding process will result in the construction project not being completed in time to meet a specific timeline, then: what is the specific timeline the project needs to be completed by, how long do you anticipate the bidding process to take, and what factors led to the school district not planning in advance so that it could use the competitive bidding process?**

We do not have a specific timeline to complete this project. We feel that going through the competitive bid process could add up to 3 months of time in beginning this project over the TIPS procurement method. We would like to begin our roofing project as soon as possible and hopefully delay possible material and unforeseen supply chain challenges that may come from delays. I don't feel that we lacked prior planning in advance on this project. I just feel that once the state funded our facility partnership project we wanted to move forward quickly with a proven vendor that could offer us a quality roof replacement for our Elementary school.



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**If the answer relates to the prior use of the vendor please provide a summary of construction projects and total amount paid in the past 5 years. Also how did the vendor receive the first construction project with the district?**

Prior TIPS Projects in the past 5 Years with Kirk Roofing

2020 - \$46,658 (Tips) Trim, Ridge, and Gutter Replacement at Jr High Auditorium

2020 - \$555,230 (Tips) Re-Roof of Old High School, High School Cafeteria, and Rock Gym

2021 - \$581,000 (Tips) Re-Roof of Old Elementary and Agriculture Complex

2021 - \$34,128 (Tips) High School Gym Ridge Replacement

2023 - \$230,014, 214 (Tips) Re-Roof of the Primary School

Our first job with Brian Kirk started in or around 2017-2018 when he worked with his brother at a company called Freedom Roofing. Our architect Craig Boone recommended several roof vendors that he trusted across the state. De Queen had a long history of poor past roofing jobs. Then Superintendent Bruce Hill did competitive bidding for a Middle School Roof replacement in the amount of approximately \$770,000. We were very pleased with the labor, quality of work, and the entire process working with Brian Kirk. After this project Brian and his brother ended their working relationship and Brian started Kirk Roofing. We have been using them for roofing needs since that time.

**If the answer relates to the preference of a local vendor please provide a list of other local vendors who could perform the project?**

Brian Kirk Roofing is not a local vendor for us. They are out of Central Arkansas and we are located in Southwest Arkansas.



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**List any other construction projects the school has done in the last 5 years and state the amounts and type of project (Tips or Competitive Bid).**

The only other construction project that I am aware of in the past 5 years was the recent construction of our Animal Science Facility. We did the competitive bidding process on that facility. We awarded the project to Alltech out of Texarkana in the amount of approximately \$670,000. We had 2 vendors bid on that project and neither of them were approved TIPS vendors for metal building construction.

**Does the school district believe the price of the construction project will be less or more expensive using the TIPS program than the competitive bid process? Did the district request any informal quotes or request information in making this decision.**

We feel that both pricing types should be fairly similar in range. A vendor may have some upfront added costs in preparing for a competitive bid quote over the Tips quote. However the Tips quote will have Tips fees imbedded in its quote. So at the end of the day I feel they will be pretty similar. We do feel that the Tips process is more streamlined and efficient. That opportunity to get started quicker may be a benefit in the cost of materials and supplies in the next several months. I have been visiting with Kirk Roofing on our roofing project at our Elementary. They have been on our campus twice and have walked our roof and building. We have had preliminary budget conversations that we feel confident will be within our budget from the state on the projects. We have not had an official Tips quote provided to me at the time. I feel that Brian Kirk could have that to me by the end of this week. It is my plan to discuss this with my board at my upcoming September meeting. I feel that my board wants me to continue with Kirk roofing for our roofing needs. I do not feel that I could convince my board that a low bid price from an unknown vendor will be the best option for our situation at this time.

I really appreciate your time and consideration on this matter and please feel free to contact me anytime at (903)277-7721. I look forward to your guidance on this issue. We are hopeful that we will be granted this Tips waiver.

Sincerely,  
Jason N. Sanders  
Superintendent

Records and Proceedings  
Board of Directors  
De Queen School District #17  
September 8, 2025

The De Queen School Board met in regular session Monday, September 8, 2025 at 5:30 p.m. in the Administration Office with the following members present: Dr. Kenny Martin, Mr. Barry Reed, Mr. Skip Bell, Mr. Tony Soto, and Ms. Sandy Huntsberger showed up mid meeting.

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Martin.

The invocation was given by Mr. Bell.

Mrs. Gentry gave the student academic data/performance report this month.

There were no PPC/Policies.

On a motion by Mr. Reed and a second by Mr. Soto, the board voted to approve August regular session minutes. 4-0

On a motion by Mr. Reed and a second by Mr. Soto, the board voted to approve August financial statement and expenditures. 4-0 The board also voted to approve 2 expenditures, one in the amount of \$49,541.56 to Architecture Plus and one in the amount of \$28,870.02 to Howard Technologies for chromebooks, on a motion by Mr. Soto, and a second by Mr. Reed. 4-0

In the Superintendent's report, Mr. Sanders reported to the board that the district was in good shape on getting meal forms back. He said enrollment was at 2356 currently and also read a letter from the Gillham Alumni thanking the Coop and District for all they have done to the Gillham campus. Mr. Pinkerton informed the board that several projects were finishing up around the campus.

There was no executive session.

On a motion by Mr. Bell, and seconded by Mr. Soto, the board voted to approve a 3 year agreement with Beardsley as the Districts Financial Advisor. 5-0

The board voted approve the new Walmart Business Program for purchases with a limit of \$30,000.00 on a motion by Ms. Huntsberger, and seconded by Mr. Soto. 5-0

On a motion by Mr. Reed, and seconded by Ms. Huntsberger, the board voted to accept bid from Custom Fab in the amount of \$49,869.34 for the lawnmower shed and the Tips/Tap roof proposal in the amount of \$1,709,955.00 for Kirk Roofing for the Elementary roof. The bid came in less than originally proposed. 5-0

On a motion by Ms. Huntsberger, and a second by Mr. Soto, the board voted to approve the High-Impact Tutoring rate based on grant approval in the amount of \$45.00. 5-0

The board voted to approve the additional pay for the sign language para in the amount of \$2.00 over rate based on salary schedule on a motion by Ms. Huntsberger, and seconded by Mr. Reed. 5-0

The board voted to accept the resignation of Kendra Icenhower-Business Manager based on retirement at the end of the school year on the motion by Mr. Reed, and seconded by Mr. Soto. 5-0

On a motion by Mr. Reed, and seconded by Mr. Soto, the board voted to approve the following personnel hires: Jessica Quintana-Custodian; Kane Faulkenberry-Paraprofessional; Viviana Gonzalez-Paraprofessional; Catherine Ousse-Paraprofessional; Brenda Mera-Paraprofessional 5-0

The board voted to approve the contract disclosure with Lori Vallee(The Fruit Stand) on a motion by Ms. Huntsberger, and seconded by Mr. Soto. 5-0

The board scheduled the next meeting for October 13<sup>th</sup> at 5:45 P.M in the High School Library.

There being no further business, with a motion by Mr. Bell and a second by Mr. Soto, the meeting was adjourned at 6:11 P.M.

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President, Board of Directors  
De Queen School District #17

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Secretary, Board of Directors  
De Queen School District #17



**Kirk Roofing and Construction, Inc.**

PO Box 572 • Vilonia, AR 72173

Phone: (501) 908-9046 • Email: [brian@kirkroofingandconstruction.com](mailto:brian@kirkroofingandconstruction.com)

September 8, 2025

Tips #181101

Attn: Jason Sanders, Superintendent  
DeQueen Public Schools

**RE: Proposal – DeQueen Elementary Re-Roof Project**

Dear Mr. Sanders ,

Kirk Roofing and Construction, Inc., is pleased to submit our proposal for the re-roofing of DeQueen Elementary School. The following scope of work outlines the materials, methods, and services that will be provided:

**Scope of Work**

**Equipment & Site Protection**

Heavy equipment will be used to stage and load roofing materials. We will take care to minimize disturbance to the parking lot and surrounding grounds. Any ruts created will be filled; however, asphalt repairs remain the owner's responsibility.

**Roof Assembly Installation**

- Provide and install 18-gauge galvanized steel hat feet and hat channels over the existing roof at 4 ft. O.C.
- Install 2 in. unfaced fiberglass insulation over the hat channels.
- Install 18-gauge galvanized steel substrate at all valleys, hips, ridges, rakes, and eaves.
- Roll-form and install a 24-gauge prefinished standing seam metal roof system.

**Penetrations & Flashings**

Raise and properly flash all roof penetrations with color-coordinated pipe flashings.

**HVAC & Mechanical Curbs**

- Shop fabricate and powder-coat new curbs for existing HVAC units and exhaust vents.



- Coordinate with a licensed HVAC professional to install supports for ductwork during curb removal and replacement.
- Extend the welded grease duct as required.

#### Wall Panels & Eaves

- Remove existing wall panels and install new FW panels with hat channels to achieve proper alignment.
- Install wave panel at all eaves.
- We will not be installing soffit for this project.

#### Snow Fence

- Install snow fence at all eaves of the building.

Pricing with TIPS: \$1,709,955.00

#### Contact Information

If you have any questions regarding this proposal, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Kevin Brannon  
Kirk Roofing and Construction, Inc.  
Phone: (501) 908-9046  
Email: kevin@kirkroofingandconstruction.com

#### Additional Contact:

Brian Kirk  
Phone: (501) 246-9680  
Email: brian@kirkroofingandconstruction.com

# DeQueen Elementary

## Legend

Proposal Area

School Dr

Elementary School Dr

Elementary School Dr

Google Earth

Image © 2025 Airbus

500 ft

