

La Fonda Bids In— Too High

Although the low bid came close to the architect's estimate, bids probably will be called again on the new La Fonda High school.

Bids were opened yesterday, with the low base bid of \$2,267,801 submitted by Jasper Construction company of Santa Cruz. Architect's estimate was \$2,250,000.

But Superintendent Denzil Morrissey said he will recommend that the board of education call for new bids. He said there isn't sufficient money to build the school, as planned, in the bond issue approved by voters.

With some payments for land, site work and fees already made and with others already committed, the city high school district only has about \$2.2 million to build the first, 1200-pupil, phase of the school.

Architect Kal Porter today shouldered some of the blame, saying that some items should have been removed from the bidding. "It probably was an error on my part," Porter said, "but we hoped to get more for our money than we got, hoping bids would come in better."

Other bidders were: Herwig of California, of Oakland, \$2,315,900; G. W. Davis, of Watsonville, \$2,372,000; Barnhart, of Santa Clara, \$2,464,112, and Cortelyou and Cole, of Burlingame, \$2,489,000.

Construction would start within 30 days if bids are accepted, with completion scheduled for September, 1967. But if bids are recalled, the school would not be ready until February, 1969, according to Morrissey.