

**(ATTACHMENT 1) ACTION ON THE AWARD OF EXCEPTION-TO-BID CONTRACTS**

*This item is initiated by the Administration.*

**ADMINISTRATION’S RECOMMENDATION**

The Administration recommends that the Board approve the following exception-to-bid contracts:

**Exception      Authorization to Contract with International Association for Human Values to Provide In-School Intervention and Professional Development**

The Administration is requesting authorization to enter into a contract with International Association for Human Values to provide in-school intervention for students and professional development for staff members. Individuals will be working with students identified through the teaming processes at identified schools. Additionally, a staff member at each identified school will be trained to become a certified facilitator of the Sky Schools curriculum within the school. Contractor and MPS shall select the identified schools at a later date.

SKY Schools is a signature program of the International Association for Human Values (IAHV), providing evidence-based programs for stress management and resilience techniques across instructional settings. Their programs foster holistic stress management and daily practices that transform teaching and learning fostering non-violence and an ethic of social service. SKY Schools will provide programs and activities in schools including their SKY School SEL + Breathwork curriculum, PD workshops for staff and families, and short student workshops called “Stress Busters” sequence of 60-minute workshops to one or two schools across the district annually.

The exception from the requirement of a competitive procurement process for this contract has been granted on the basis of part of an approved federal grant. (Administrative Policy 3.09(2)(c)).

The contract will run from April 1, 2025 through August 31, 2027, and will not exceed \$95,000.

**Budget Code: SDV-0-S-SJ5-SN-ECTS..... \$95,000.00**

**International Association for Human Values**  
**HUB PARTICIPATION**  
Required .....0%  
Proposed .....0%  
\$ Value .....N/A  
**STUDENT ENGAGEMENT (Hours per 12-month contract)**  
Paid Student Employment Hour Commitment: 0 HOURS  
Student Career Awareness Commitment: 0 HOURS

**Exception      Authorization to Issue a Contract to von Briesen & Roper, S.C., for Legal Services**

The Administration is requesting authorization to enter into a contract with von Briesen & Roper, S.C. (von Briesen) for legal representation on various employment matters.

The City Attorney’s Office for the City of Milwaukee serves as legal counsel for the Milwaukee Board of School Directors. On March 18, 2022, the City Attorney notified the district that it would be beneficial to seek outside legal counsel with regard to certain ongoing cases. von Briesen is a large law firm with the capacity and expertise to provide excellent representation and has been used by MPS since 2022. Many school districts across the state of Wisconsin are also represented by von Briesen.

The exception from the requirement of a competitive procurement process for this contract has been granted on a continuity basis as the current cases are still ongoing (Administrative Policy 3.09(7)(e)(1)(b)(iv)).

The contract will run April 22, 2025 through April 21, 2026, (the “Initial Term”), with two additional one-year options to extend upon mutual consent. The total cost of the Initial Term will not exceed \$300,000.

**Budget Code:**

OGA-0-0-HRO-HR-ECTS.....(Contract Services)..... \$300,000.00

**Von Briesen & Roper, S.C.**

**HUB PARTICIPATION**

Required .....0%

Proposed .....N/A

\$ Value.....N/A

**STUDENT ENGAGEMENT (Hours per 12-month contract)**

Paid Student Employment Hour Commitment: 0 HOURS

Student Career Awareness Commitment: 0 HOURS

**Exception      Authorization Contract with Teaching Lab for Professional Learning on Implementing Effective Instructional Practices in PreK- 3 Literacy Classrooms**

The Administration is requesting authorization to enter into a contract Teaching Lab to provide job-embedded coaching for 30 teachers at Brown Street Academy, Franklin Elementary, and Hopkins Lloyd. This coaching will support the implementation of Personal Reading Plans (PRPs) through the end of the 2024-2025 school year.

Teaching Lab coaches will provide professional learning and support to teachers by following the Department of Public Instruction’s Personal Reading Toolkit and district guidance. Teaching Lab will engage in observation and feedback cycles, helping teachers build confidence in implementing Props through pre-planning and debrief sessions, focusing on differentiating or accelerating student achievement. Coaches will model the best practices and offer in-the-moment coaching to improve teaching. They

will also provide "micro-PL" (brief, targeted professional learning sessions) when needed, invite instructional leaders to shadow coaching sessions, and facilitate debriefs with school leaders to reflect on observational feedback.

The exception to bid has been approved on the basis of continuity, services must be provided by this contractor for continuity for MPS staff currently enrolled in ongoing programs. (Administrative Policy 3.09(7)(E)(1)(b)(iv)) and pursuant to a grant (Administrative Policy 3.09(2)(c)).

The contract will run from April 1, 2025, through June 30, 2025, and will not exceed \$262,000.

**Budget Code:**  
SDV-0-S-3Z5-DW-ECTS ..... (CSI GRANT).....\$262,000.00

**Teaching Lab**  
**HUB PARTICIPATION**  
Required .....0%  
Proposed .....0%  
\$ Value.....NA  
**STUDENT ENGAGEMENT (Hours per 12-month contract)**  
Paid Student Employment Hour Commitment: 0 HOURS  
Student Career Awareness Commitment: 0 HOURS

**Exception      Authorization to issue Purchase Orders to North America Central School Bus Intermediate Holding Company, LLC dba Illinois Central School Bus, LLC and Lakeside Buses of Wisconsin, Inc. for Clean Heavy-Duty Vehicles (Electric Yellow Buses)**

The Administration is requesting authorization to issue purchases orders to North America Central School Bus Intermediate Holding Company, LLC dba Illinois Central School Bus, LLC and Lakeside Buses of Wisconsin, Inc. (a subsidiary of RideSTA) for Clean Heavy-Duty Vehicles (Electric Yellow Buses). These (2) vendors partnered with MPS in applying to replace 50 Class 6/7 diesel buses with Class 6/7 ZEBs to reduce the district’s emissions of nitrogen oxides (NOx), particulate matter (PM), and greenhouse gases (GHGs). The project will directly improve the air quality for students, staff, and community members and reduce district transportation costs. In addition, the district will continue to leverage the public private partnership with North America Central School Bus Intermediate Holding Company, LLC dba Illinois Central School Bus, LLC and Lakeside Buses of Wisconsin, Inc. to ensure efficient and cost-effective use of EPA funding and successful implementation of the project to deliver electric schools buses and any associated vehicle infrastructure needs.

This initiative is part of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) Clean Heavy-Duty Vehicles Grant Program as part of the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 and was designed to incentivize and accelerate the replacement of existing internal combustion engine heavy duty vehicles with zero-emission vehicles. MPS was awarded \$14,787,500 from this particular partnership application.

The Exception to Bid has been granted on the basis that the purchase under these purchase orders are required pursuant to a grant obtained from the Environmental Protection Agency (Administrative Policy 3.09(2)(c)).

The purchase orders issued to each vendor will be for \$7,393,750 and run from March 21, 2025 through December 31, 2026.

The total cost of the purchase orders will not exceed \$14,787,500.

**Budget Code:**

BUDGET CODE.....PTR-0-S-VZ5-TT-ECTS..... \$14,787,500.00

**North America Central School Bus Intermediate Holding Company,  
LLC dba Illinois Central School Bus, LLC**

**HUB PARTICIPATION**

Required .....N/A

Proposed .....N/A

\$ Value .....N/A

**STUDENT ENGAGEMENT (Hours per 12-month contract)**

Paid Student Employment Hour Commitment: 0 HOURS

Student Career Awareness Commitment: 0 HOURS

**Lakeside Buses of Wisconsin, Inc.**

**HUB PARTICIPATION**

Required .....N/A

Proposed .....N/A

\$ Value .....N/A

**STUDENT ENGAGEMENT (Hours per 12-month contract)**

Paid Student Employment Hour Commitment: 0 HOURS

Student Career Awareness Commitment: 0 HOURS