

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

This item initiated by the Administration.

ADMINISTRATION’S RECOMMENDATION

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

Exception Authorization to Extend a Contract with Smart Interpreting Services, Inc. d/b/a Professional Interpreting Enterprise for Interpretation Services

The Administration is requesting authorization to extend the contract with Smart Interpreting Services, Inc. d/b/a Professional Interpreting Enterprise (“PIE”) for interpretation services.

Contractor shall provide interpretation services for students and staff who are deaf and hard of hearing in MPS. The grade level of the students may be from Pre-K3 to twelfth grade. The students will have varied proficiency in American Sign Language (ASL). Interpretation services may be needed for classroom instruction as well as after school activities, such as sporting activities, after school programs, and other similar programs. In addition, interpreters may be needed to accompany students on field trips. Interpretation services will be needed for adults who participate in activities sponsored by MPS as well as staff who work for MPS. Activities may include but are not limited to individualized education plan (IEP) meetings, parent/teacher conferences, school performances, and graduation ceremonies.

According to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), MPS is required to provide interpretation services to any individual who utilizes sign language as their primary mode of communication for any school activity or individual conference at which the parent is present. The State of Wisconsin Department of Regulations and Licensing (DRL) require interpreters to have a DRL license to interpret for adults who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing in school settings. This vendor is an exception to bid because they can meet the capacity needed for MPS staff, as we request two to three, in person sign language interpreters each week for adults.

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

The original contract provided for two one-year options to extend upon mutual consent. This will be the second extension of this contract. This second contract extension will run from January 1, 2021, through December 31, 2021.

The total cost of the contract in this extension year will not exceed \$350,000.

Budget Code:

HI2-0-I-EEN-DW-ECTS....(Interpreting Services - Contract Services).....\$350,000

Smart Interpreting Services, Inc. d/b/a Professional Interpreting Enterprise

HUB PARTICIPATION

Required0%
Proposed0%
\$ ValueN/A

STUDENT ENGAGEMENT (hours per 12-month contract)

Paid Student Employment-Hour Commitment: 300
Student Career-Awareness Commitment: 10

Exception Authorization to Extend a Contract with Walk on Water Consulting, Inc., for Peoplesoft Support and Upgrades

The Administration is requesting authorization to extend a contract with Walk on Water Consulting, Inc., (“WOW”) to support PeopleSoft, the District’s human resource management system. This contractor will be used to provide critical upgrades to the PeopleSoft application and related database, to deliver support for customizations to the PeopleSoft modules, and to assist, on an as-needed basis, with application support and troubleshooting.

WOW has been involved with the PeopleSoft application since its implementation at MPS in 1999. Due to the high level of application customization that has been done, it is imperative that we retain the contractor who created this custom code. Phase 1 of upgrades will include upgrading the database from Oracle to the MS SQL programming language, which will result in anticipated annual licensing savings of \$300,000 per year. Phase 2 will include upgrading PeopleTools and PUM maintenance, which is about three years overdue.

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

The original contract provided for two one-year options to extend upon mutual consent. This will be the first extension of this contract. This first contract extension will run from January 1, 2021, through December 31, 2021.

The total cost of the contract in this extension year will not exceed \$148,500.

Budget Code:

TSV-0-0-TLN-DW-ECTS..... (Technology - Contracted Services).....\$148,500

Walk on Water Consulting, Inc.

PRIME VENDOR

HUB PARTICIPATION

Required0%

Proposed0%

\$ ValueN/A

STUDENT ENGAGEMENT (hours per 12-month contract)

Paid Student Employment-Hour Commitment: 0

Student Career-Awareness Commitment: 0

Exception Authorization to Contract with Amplify Education, Inc., for Supplemental Curriculum Based Materials for Grades K3-5

The Administration is requesting authorization to enter into a blanket agreement with Amplify Education, Inc., (“Amplify”) for supplemental curriculum based material for grades K3-5. Amplify provides high-quality original, authentic, and engaging texts selected to increase students’ knowledge, comprehension, and range of reading and listening experiences.

In grades K-3, read-aloud texts feature specially commissioned, knowledge-rich texts by children’s authors on topics such as the fables from around the world, insects, early Asian civilizations, the five senses, mythology human body, early world civilizations, early exploration, and U.S. history. Informational texts build within and across grades, developing a solid foundation of knowledge that can be applied in later grades.

Student readers in grades 3–5 feature literary classics and specially commissioned, knowledge-rich

texts by children’s authors on topics such as the human body, world civilizations in the Middle Ages, chemistry, Native Americans, and U.S. history. Informational texts build upon previous domains in earlier grades, asking students to delve into a topic with increasing focus.

Amplify Reading leverages the power of compelling storytelling, taking students on a personalized journey to learn the skills they need, whether they are just learning to read or mastering close reading. The program aligns closely with the Core Knowledge Language Arts (“CKLA”) scope and sequence and provides students with targeted and engaging instruction and practice in the skills and standards that students need to become successful readers: phonological awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension. After instruction, students need individual and focused time to practice what they’ve learned. In Amplify Reading, students enter a captivating narrative where each storyline requires them to apply foundational skills to navigate a series of games. Each game focuses on a specific skill, allowing students to practice that skill to mastery.

The Administration has observed spending at individual MPS schools that exceeds a cumulative purchase amount of \$50,000 each fiscal year. Therefore, the exception from the requirement of a competitive procurement process for this purchase has been granted on the basis of continuity (Administrative Policy 3.09(7)(e)(1)(b)(i)).

The blanket contract will run from January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2023. The total cost of the contract will not exceed \$325,000.

Budget Code:

Varies by location ordering goods.....\$325,000

Amplify Education, Inc.

HUB PARTICIPATION

Required0%

Proposed0%

\$ ValueN/A

STUDENT ENGAGEMENT (hours per 12-month contract)

Paid Student Employment Hour Commitment: 0

Student Career Awareness Commitment: 0

Exception Authorization to Purchase from Discovery Education, Inc., for Discovery Education Science Tech for Middle School

The Administration requests authorization to purchase Discovery Education Science Tech Book for Middle School from Discovery Education, Inc. (“Discovery Education”).

Discovery Education provides teachers and students with high quality simulations and Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) aligned science activities for grades 6-8. These simulations allow students to collect data and information that would otherwise be difficult to capture in a practical application at the elementary and middle school levels. Discovery Education also provides student with leveled text and reading passages aligned to the NGSS and Common Core State Standards (CCSS). Content is kept current, and helps bridge gaps between traditional print resources and current science learning and information. Licenses for 70 school sites in MPS will be renewed for all teachers and students for the 2020-2021 school year through this purchase.

The exception from the requirement of a competitive procurement process for this purchase has been granted on the basis of one-of-a-kind (Administrative Policy 3.09(7)(e)(1)(b)(i)). Discovery Education is the proprietary owner, creator, and producer of Discovery Education Science, and is the sole distributor of the product in Wisconsin.

The total cost of the goods purchased from Discovery Education will not exceed \$87,764.32.

Budget Code:

SDV-0-0-CAI-CI-ECTS-COVD....(Curriculum & Instruction – Contract Services)...\$87,764.32

Discovery Education, Inc.

HUB PARTICIPATION

Required0%

Proposed0%%

\$ ValueN/A

STUDENT ENGAGEMENT (hours per 12-month contract)

Paid Student Employment Hour Commitment: 100

Student Career Awareness Commitment: 10