

**APPROVE EXERCISING THE SECOND OPTION TO RENEW THE AGREEMENT  
WITH AMERICA'S CHOICE, INC. FOR CONSULTING SERVICES**

**THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORTS THE FOLLOWING DECISION:**

Approve exercising the second option to renew the agreement with America's Choice, Inc. to provide consulting services to select Chicago Public Schools at a cost for the option period not to exceed \$800,000.00. A written document exercising this option is currently being negotiated. The original agreement was awarded on a non-competitive basis based on Consultant's qualifications, expertise, and abilities to provide appropriate services. No payment shall be made to Consultant during the option period prior to the execution of the written document. The authority granted herein shall automatically rescind in the event a written document is not executed within 90 days of the date of this Board Report. Information pertinent to this option is stated below.

<b>CONSULTANT:</b> America's Choice, Inc. 555 13 <sup>th</sup> Street, NW Suite 501 Washington, DC 20004 Contact: Jason Dougal (202) 783-3668 Vendor Number: 92035	<b><u>Partnership School</u></b> DePriest Dewey Hamline* Lewis Parker	<b><u>Area</u></b> 3 13 12 3 14
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\* Fresh Start School

**USER:**

Chief Education Office  
125 South Clark Street, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Barbara Eason Watkins  
(773) 553-1500

Office of Instructional Design and Assessment  
125 South Clark Street, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Xavier Botana  
(773) 553-5060

**ORIGINAL AGREEMENT:** The original Agreement (authorized by Board Report 06-0628-ED3 and amended by Board Report 06-0823-ED2) in the amount of \$1,400,000.00 is for a term commencing July 1, 2006 and ending June 30, 2007, with the Board having 3 options to renew for 1 year terms. The first option to renew was authorized by Board Report 07-0627-ED3 in the amount of \$800,000 for a term commencing July 1, 2007 and ending June 30, 2008.

**OPTION PERIOD:** The term of this agreement is being extended for 1 year commencing July 1, 2008 and ending June 30, 2009.

**OPTION PERIODS REMAINING:** There is 1 option period remaining for a term of 1 year.

**SCOPE OF SERVICES:** Continue to implement a unique restructuring plan designed to provide appropriate strategies for each school. The America's Choice Intensive K-8 School Design will continue to provide the professional development, tools, materials, and technical assistance needed to: (a) build a Leadership Team in each school that can effectively lead and monitor implementation of the design and focus on results and (b) improve teaching and learning in K-8 English language arts classrooms in order to get all students to standard and prepare them for success in high school and beyond. America's Choice will use a comprehensive set of diagnostic tools to assess school and students' needs and gauge the extent of design implementation and America's Choice will provide consistent and regular on-site technical assistance and coaching to school administrators, Leadership Teams, and teachers designed to help them implement the strategies and structures needed to raise student performance. The America's Choice Intensive Design includes standards-based curriculum aligned with the Illinois Assessment Frameworks in English language arts, and research-based methods of instruction and classroom organization designed to address the needs of all learners, including special education students and English language learners. Through the America's Choice Ramp-Up to Literacy courses, students with serious deficits in reading at the sixth grade will be able to catch up with their peers and succeed in on-grade literacy classes. America's Choice Ramp-Up programs involve the school's English teachers in professional development sessions to prepare them for teaching students who are three or four years behind.

**DELIVERABLES:** America's Choice Intensive K-8 School Design deliverables include continuing to provide the following:

- First Thirty Days Lessons for Establishing Readers and Writers Workshops
- Four Literacy Institutes for Lead Literacy Teachers and one classroom teacher from each grade
- Professional development and materials to support the implementation of Routines and Rituals for the Readers Workshop and Writers Workshops, Skills Block, and Genre Studies
- Two Principals Academies and eight half-day Principals Networks
- 30 days of on-site technical assistance and coaching for each school
- Ramp-Up to Middle-Grade Literacy, including 9 days of professional development for middle-grade ELA teachers
- Planning for Results – a unique system for data-driven decision-making that sets performance targets at the school, grade, and class levels, producing a culture in which results become the primary focus
- Principals' Book of the Month, a powerful literacy and community building initiative
- One Million Word a Year Campaign – engaging the entire school and community in reading
- What Every Parent Needs to Know about Reading and Writing, *Grade by Grade* (in English and in Spanish) assisting parents to support their children's literacy achievement

**OUTCOMES:** Consultants' services will continue to 1) increase student achievement, 2) meet NCLB/State/CPS accountability requirements, 3) improve school leadership, including school organization and fiscal management, 4) establish a student-centered learning climate, 5) provide effective professional development activities, and 6) promote parent community partnerships.

**COMPENSATION:** Consultant shall be paid during this option period as periodic invoices are submitted and verified, with the total amount not to exceed \$800,000.00.

**AUTHORIZATION:** Authorize the General Counsel to include other relevant terms and conditions in the written option document. Authorize the President and Secretary to execute the option document. Authorize Chief Officer of Instructional Design and Assessment to execute all ancillary documents required to administer or effectuate this option agreement.

**AFFIRMATIVE ACTION:** This contract is in full compliance with the goals required by the Revised Remedial Plan for Minority and Women Business Enterprise Contract Participation (M/WBE Plan). The M/WBE participation goals for the contract include: 26% total MBE and 5% total WBE.

The vendor has identified and scheduled the following firms and percentages:

Total MBE – 26%

San Juan Star Travel  
3066 West Armitage Ave.  
Chicago, Illinois 60647  
Contact: Nelson Flores certified through 07/01/2007

Magnetic Office Products  
20 East Jackson Blvd.  
Chicago, Illinois 60604  
Contact: Gil McCoy certified through 12/01/2007

Total WBE – 5%  
Alpha Graphics  
208 South LaSalle Street  
Chicago, Illinois 60604  
Contact: Shiela Moran certified through 09/01/2007

**LSC REVIEW:** Local School Council approval is not applicable to this report.

**FINANCIAL:** Charge to Office of Instructional Design and Assessment: \$800,000.00      FY: 2008-2009  
Budget Classification: TBD

**GENERAL CONDITIONS:**

Inspector General – Each party to the agreement shall acknowledge that, in accordance with 105 ILCS 5/34-13.1, the Inspector General of the Chicago Board of Education has the authority to conduct certain investigations and that the Inspector General shall have access to all information and personnel necessary to conduct those investigations.

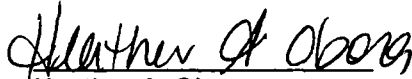
Conflicts – The agreement shall not be legally binding on the Board if entered into in violation of the provisions of 105 ILCS 5/34-21.3 which restricts the employment of, or the letting of contracts to, former Board member during the one year period following expiration or other termination of their terms of office.

Indebtedness – The Board’s Indebtedness Policy adopted June 26, 1996 (96-0626-PO3), as amended from time to time, shall be incorporated into and made a part of the agreement.

Ethics – The Board’s Ethics Code adopted June 23, 2004 (04-0623-PO4), as amended from time to time, shall be incorporated into and made a part of the agreement.

Contingent Liability – The agreement shall contain the clause that any expenditure beyond the current fiscal year is deemed a contingent liability, subject to appropriation in the subsequent fiscal year budget(s).

**Approved for Consideration:**

  
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**Heather A. Obora**  
**Chief Purchasing Officer**

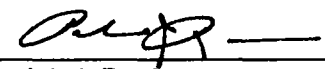
**Approved:**

  
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**Arne Duncan**  
**Chief Executive Officer**

**Within Appropriation:**

  
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**Pedro Martinez**  
**Chief Financial Officer**

**Approved as to legal form:** 

  
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**Patrick J. Rocks**  
**General Counsel**