

**APPROVE ENTERING INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH BRAINFOREST, INC.  
FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF AN EARLY CHILDHOOD VIRTUAL CLASSROOM WEBSITE**

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

Approve entering into an agreement with Brainforest, Inc. for the development of an Early Childhood Virtual Classroom Bilingual Website for the Office of Language, Cultural, and Early Childhood Education at a cost not to exceed \$74,000. Consultant was selected on a non-competitive basis because of their unique qualifications in developing interactive educational websites. A written agreement for Consultant's services is currently being negotiated. No services shall be provided by Consultant and no payment shall be made to Consultant prior to the execution of the written agreement. The authority granted herein shall automatically rescind in the event a written agreement is not executed within 60 days of the date of this Board Report. Information pertinent to this agreement is stated below.

Specification No.: 01-250007

**CONSULTANT:** Brainforest, Inc.  
1735 N. Paulina #409  
Chicago, IL 60622  
(773) 395 - 2500  
Contact Person: Victoria Mullins  
Vendor Number: 32564

**USER:** Office of Language, Cultural, and Early Childhood Education  
125 S. Clark Street, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Chicago, IL 60603  
Armando Almendarez  
553-1933

**TERM:** The term of this agreement shall commence on the date the agreement is signed and shall end on June 30, 2001.

**SCOPE OF SERVICES:** Consultant will develop an early childhood virtual classroom bilingual website that will include approximately 250 pages and will serve as an interactive communication, information and teaching resource for Early Childhood teachers and parents. Consultant will develop the website to be housed initially on the CPS website and to include the following core site components: 1) Curriculum Areas where parents can download activity ideas to do at home, 2) Lesson Preview Area where parents can watch a thumbnail clip of the video lessons; 3) Links where parents can access relevant web resources; 4) Current Events Area where parents can find local activities for young children and families; 5) Communications Area - a Chat Room and/or Bulletin Board Chat room open at scheduled times when a featured guest is moderating, 6) Games Corner - game links for preschoolers; and 7) Site Guide -providing help for first-time visitors to the site or parents unfamiliar with navigating through a website. Content for these areas will be developed and provided to Consultant by CPS teachers and early childhood staff. The site will initially be maintained and updated by staff within the Office of Language, Cultural, and Early Childhood Education.

**DELIVERABLES:** Consultant will deliver an Early Childhood Virtual Classroom Website consisting of approximately 250 pages.

**OUTCOMES:** Consultant services will result in the establishment of an interactive website available to parents and teachers which provides video lessons, information and resources to support Early Childhood education.

**COMPENSATION:** Consultant shall be paid as follows: 30% upon signing of the contract, 30% upon approval of final design, and remainder upon delivery of final product with the total compensation not to exceed \$74,000.

**AUTHORIZATION:** Authorize the General Counsel to include other relevant terms and conditions in the written agreement. Authorize the President and Secretary to execute the agreement. Authorize the Office of Language, Cultural, and Early Childhood Education Chief Officer to execute all ancillary documents required to administer or effectuate this agreement.

**AFFIRMATIVE ACTION:** As a condition of this award, this firm agrees to comply with the provisions of the Revised Remedial Plan for M/WBE Economic Participation and agrees to make every effort to achieve full compliance with the goals for this program. The M/WBE goals for this program/project are: 22% Black, 10% Hispanic, 2% Asian, 5% WBE and 0% Non-Minority.

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

**FINANCIAL:** Charge to Office of Language and Culture (Citywide): \$74,000      Fiscal Year: 2001  
Budget Classification: 0952-210-000-2067-5410  
Source of Funds: Board general fund

**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 members during the one-year period following expiration or other termination of their terms of office.

Indebtedness – The Board's Indebtedness Policy adopted July 26, 1995 (95-0726-EX3), as amended from time to time, shall be incorporated into and made a part of the agreement.

Ethics – The Board's Ethics Code adopted September 27, 1995 (95-0927-RU3), 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).

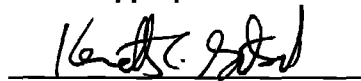
**Approved for Consideration:**

  
Natalye Paquin  
Chief Purchasing Officer

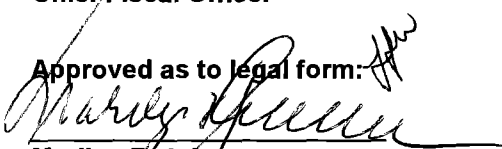
**Approved:**

  
Paul G. Vallas  
Chief Executive Officer

**Within Appropriation:**

  
Kenneth C. Gotsch  
Chief Fiscal Officer

**Approved as to legal form:**

  
Marilyn F. Johnson  
General Counsel