

**APPROVE ENTERING INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH CHARACTER EVALUATION ASSOCIATES  
FOR CONSULTING SERVICES**

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

Approve entering into an agreement with Character Evaluation Associates to provide consulting services to the Department of Character Education, Office of Schools and Regions at a cost not to exceed \$15,000. Consultant was selected on a non-competitive basis pursuant to the federal grant contract with the Illinois State Board of Education. The Consultant was selected in 1998 by the Illinois State Board of Education and the five LEA Partner Districts. Character Education Associates has nationally recognized expertise in evaluating character education programs and knowledge of the Illinois Learning Standards and the National Education Goals. 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.:** 00-250895

**CONSULTANT:** Character Evaluation Associates  
40 Pin Oak Circle  
Murphysboro, IL 62966  
Contact Person: Dr. James Leming  
618/ 453-4260  
Vendor Number: 31122

**USER:** Department of Character Education  
Office of Schools and Regions  
Contact Person: Dr. Leon Hendricks  
773/553-2310

**TERM:** The term of this agreement shall commence on the date the agreement is signed and shall end August 31, 2001.

**EARLY TERMINATION RIGHT:** The Board may terminate this contract upon 30 days written notice to consultant.

**SCOPE OF SERVICES:** Consultant shall provide the following services in the capacity of project evaluator (as mandated by the grant): (i) design and administration of a process and outcome evaluation plan, (ii) evaluate the effects of the partnership character education programs on student achievement and character development using quantitative and qualitative methods, and (iii) evaluate the effects of the character education programs on staff morale and the quality of life in the schools.

**DELIVERABLES:** The Consultant will: 1) prepare questionnaires for students, staff, and parents in the respective school communities participating in the partnership; 2) assure that the questionnaires are produced in English, Spanish, and Polish; 3) make on-site visits to the 18 participating schools to observe the character education programs; 4) conduct focus groups within the 18 respective school communities regarding the goals of the project; 5) participate in 3 partnership meetings and the annual character education conferences; 6) develop necessary baseline data; 7) develop mid-grant and end-of-grant evaluation reports; 8) compile pre- and post-treatment student achievement scores and other appropriate measures of character growth and development.

**OUTCOMES:** The Consultant will evaluate the effectiveness of the partnerships character education programs to determine if the project intended outcomes and compliance with Federal mandates have been achieved. These outcomes include: 1) reductions in truancy, suspensions, expulsions, discipline problems, and other disruptive classroom behaviors; 2) an increase in parental and community involvement and support of schools endeavors to provide an academically rich and ethically sound environment; 3) an improvement in staff and student relationships, expectations, respect, and overall school climate; 4) improvement in academic achievement in the model program character education schools

**COMPENSATION:** Consultant shall be paid as follows: upon invoicing, not to exceed \$15,000.00 for the term.

**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.

**AFFIRMATIVE ACTION:** M/WBE participation for Independent Contractors is determined on an aggregated basis and reported in the M/WBE Monthly Report. M/WBE participation: 0% Black, 0% Hispanic, 0% Asian, 0% WBE and 100% Non-Minority.

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

**FINANCIAL:** Charge to Department of Character Education \$15,000 Fiscal Year: 2001  
Budget Classification: 0953-239-543-7790-5410  
Source of Funds: Illinois State Board of Education


**GENERAL CONDITIONS:** Inspector General - Each party to this agreement hereby acknowledges 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 Boards 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 Boards 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.

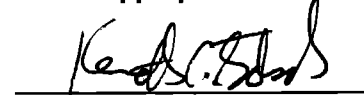
**Approved for Consideration:**

  
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