

**APPROVE ENTERING INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH EDTECH STRATEGIES, LLC
FOR CONSULTING SERVICES**

THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORTS THE FOLLOWING DECISION:

Approve entering into an agreement with EdTech Strategies, LLC to provide consulting services to the Office of Technology Services at a cost not to exceed \$300,000.00 for a 22 month term. Consultant was selected on a non-competitive basis because of its expertise and knowledge regarding E-Rate Program rules and regulations. 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 ninety (90) days of the date of this Board Report. Information pertinent to this agreement is stated below.

SPECIFICATION No.:

CONSULTANT: EdTech Strategies, LLC
22604 Timber Creek Lane
Clarksburg, Maryland 20871
Contact: Linda S. Schatz, President
Telephone No.: (202) 251-4097
Vendor No.: 22545

USER: Office of Technology Services
125 South Clark, 3rd Floor
Chicago, Illinois 60603
Contacts: Robert Runcie, Chief Information Officer
Jane Kratochvil, E-Rate Director
Telephone No.: (773) 553-1300

TERM: The term of this agreement shall commence on September 1, 2004 and shall end June 30, 2006. This agreement shall have one (1) option to renew for a twelve (12) month period.

EARLY TERMINATION RIGHT: Either party shall have the right to terminate this Agreement upon sixty (60) days' written notice.

SCOPE OF SERVICES: Consultant shall provide E-Rate Advisory Services for Fiscal Year 2005 and 2006 including the following:

- Review funding requests to the SLD by the Board and participating E-Rate vendors and their subcontractors for fiscal years 2005 and 2006, advise if adequate documentation is available to support all funding requests and if all funding requests are considered eligible for discounts according to the E-Rate program guidelines. The scope of the review will include funding requests for all the CPS related internal connections, internet Access, and telecommunications projects.
- Advise ways in which to maximize the discount received by the Board for services and systems as allowed under the program rules, while minimizing the local funding requirements for systems implementation.
- Reduce the disruption to staff and internal processes during the planning phase to the lowest level and transfer process knowledge to Board staff, while minimizing requests for additional information from the SLD.
- Advise ways in which to minimize the risk of conflicts with Universal Service Administrative Corporation and Federal Communications Commission rules and regulations and reduce the risk of denied funding requests.

DELIVERABLES: Consultant will provide the following:

- Timely reports to advise CPS E-Rate Director of known E-Rate program rules, procedures and filing requirements
- Provide linkage to eligible services documentation as needed and where available.
- Suggest revisions, if necessary, on contracts for relevant E-Rate language for compliance with the E-rate program requirements.
- Make recommendations, if appropriate, denied services for compliance of such services for fiscal 2005 and 2006.
- Provide suggestions on needed changes to meet program requirements in Form 471, Block 5 funding requests including the Item 21 Description of Service.
- Assist staff with questions related to form submission
- Perform high-level review of applications and processes related to the filing of fiscal 2005 and 2006 applications.
- Brainstorm the optimum allowable strategy to maximize discount and minimize direct funding
- Advise CPS E-Rate Director of known E-rate program rules, procedures and filing requirements that may impact the successful filing and review of Forms 470 and 471.
- Provide verbal and written reports on changes in program regulations and procedures and the impact to the services of the Board.
- Provide Review Form 471 funding requests and corresponding contracts.
- Provide supporting information/documentation as required regarding recommendations for fiscal years 2005 and 2006 E-Rate Program desired outcomes.
- Assistance with the review and identification of eligible services based on the most recent eligible services guidance available from the SLD

OUTCOMES: Consultant's services will result in thoroughly prepared E-Rate funding requests, a better-managed E-Rate program and CPS will be well positioned for any future USAC audits and inquiries.

COMPENSATION: Consultant shall be paid as follows: Upon invoicing total amount not to exceed the sum of \$300,000.00 for a 22 month term.

REIMBURSABLE EXPENSES: None.

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 Chief Information Officer to execute all ancillary documents required to administer or effectuate this agreement.

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION: The M/WBE goals for this contract include: 35% total MBE, 22% total African American, 10% total Hispanic, 2% total Asian and 5% total WBE.

However, the Waiver Review Committee recommends that a partial waiver of the M/WBE participation goals for this contract as required by the Revised Remedial Plan be granted because the contract scope is not further divisible.

The vendor has, however, identified and scheduled the following firms and percentages

Total 2% Hispanic:

Four Corners of the World Travel, Inc.
dba/ San Juan Star Travel
3066 W. Armitage
Chicago, Illinois 60647

\$6,000.00 / 2%
Certified through February 1, 2005

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

FINANCIAL: Charge to Office of Technology Services: \$300,000.00

Budget Classification: 0220-210-000-1149-5410
0220-210-000-1149-5410

\$150,000.00 FY 05
\$150,000.00 FY 06

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.

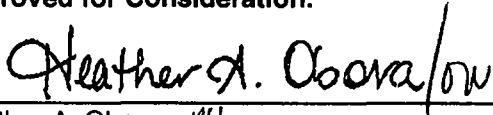
Conflicts – The agreement shall not be legally binding on the Board if entered into in violation of the provisions of 105 ILCS 5/34-21.3 which restricts the employment of or the letting of contracts to, former Board members during the one year period following expiration or other termination of their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

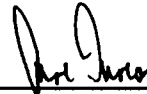
Contingent Liability – The agreement shall contain the clause that any expenditure beyond the current fiscal year is deemed a contingent liability, subject to appropriation in the subsequent fiscal year budget(s).

Approved for Consideration:



Heather A. Obora
Chief Purchasing Officer

Approved:



Arne Duncan
Chief Executive Officer

Within Appropriation:



John Maiorca
Chief Financial Officer

Approved as to Legal Form:



Ruth Moscovitch
General Counsel