

**APPROVE ENTERING INTO AGREEMENTS WITH EARLY LITERACY ASSESSMENT VENDORS
FOR CONSULTING SERVICES**

THE CHIEF EDUCATION OFFICER REPORTS THE FOLLOWING DECISION:

Approve entering into agreements with early literacy assessment vendors to provide consulting services to the Chief Education Office at a cost not to exceed \$2,000,000.00. Consultants were selected through a competitive Request for Proposals, Specification No: 09-250036. The Board is committed to providing valid, reliable formative assessments that inform instruction and improve student achievement. Currently, the majority of the Board's schools use a common formative literacy assessment that includes screening, progress monitoring, and diagnostic measures. The Chicago Public Schools is committed to ensuring that the Early Literacy Assessment project meets the needs of all schools and areas and is moving toward a "choice model" in Early Literacy Assessment. This model will allow the Board's schools to choose from a menu of approved Early Literacy Assessments so that they are using the assessment instruments that best meet their needs. CPS believes that allowing choice will enhance the use of formative assessment to inform instruction and, ultimately, this will improve student achievement.

Written agreements for each Consultant's services are currently being negotiated. No services shall be provided by any Consultant and no payment shall be made to any Consultant prior to the execution of their written agreement. The authority granted herein shall automatically rescind as to each Consultant in the event their written agreement is not executed within 90 days of the date of this Board Report. Information pertinent to these agreements is stated below.

CONSULTANTS:

1. Wireless Generation
55 Washington Street, Suite 900
Brooklyn, NY 11201
(212) 213-8177
Contact: Patrick Smith
Vendor # 12990

Contract Administrator: Martha Escareno

2. NCS Pearson, Inc.
19500 Bulverde Rad
San Antonio, TX 78259
(210) 339-5393
Contact: Anabel Ruiz-Barbosa
Vendor Number # 34595

3. Children's Progress, Inc.
108 W.39th St., Suite 1305
New York, NY 10018
(646) 443-9320
Contact: Erin O'Leary
Vendor Number # 67956

4. Computer Services & Consulting, Inc. (CS&C)
1613 S. Michigan
Chicago, IL 60616
(630) 468-2481
Contact: Babylon S. Williams
Vendor Number # 41798

5. University of Chicago
5801 South Ellis Avenue
Chicago, IL 60637
(772)702-8604
Contact: Carol Zuiches
Vendor Number # 33123

USER: Chief Education Office
125 S. Clark
Chicago, IL 60603
Dr. Barbara Eason-Watkins
(773) 553-1490

TERM: The term of each agreement shall commence on August 17, 2009 and shall end June 30, 2010. The agreements shall have two options to renew for periods of one year each.

EARLY TERMINATION RIGHT: The Board shall have the right to terminate each agreement with 30 days written notice.

SCOPE OF SERVICES: Consultants will provide the following as defined by each individual vendor agreement and statement of work.

- **Assessment Administration:** the capacity for the Board-defined number of schools to administer the given assessment
- **Professional Development:** All necessary professional development to meet the needs of Board-defined number of schools
- **Technology, Data Collection & Reporting** – Consultants will house all associated data and reporting systems. Data and reports housed by Consultant and accessible by the Board. Consultants will provide all assessment raw data to Board in formats compatible with the Board's data systems.
- **Project Management** - Consultants will submit a project plan that outlines how they will address all aspects of project implementation. Consultants will adhere to Board project-management guidelines and expectations including but not limited to: providing a project manager; participating in weekly status meetings; providing weekly status reports based on project metrics defined by the Board; providing regular financial updates; and responding to issues in a timely manner.

DELIVERABLES: Consultants will provide:

- 1) Ability and access for K-3 teachers to administer assessment to the Board defined number of students and schools
- 2) Access to valid, reliable assessment data to be used specifically for the purpose of improving instruction enhancing student achievement;
- 3) Results on a secure, password-protected Web site that allows teachers to view, analyze, and manage data;
- 4) Associated assessment materials and kits delivered to designated schools
- 5) Appropriate professional development to both administer the assessment and use the data to drive instruction.
- 6) This project will impact approximately 85,000 students in grades K-3; more than 2500 teachers, 460 principals, and all associated area and central office staff.

OUTCOMES: Consultants' services will result in an efficient, effective approach to administering early literacy assessments and reporting assessment data that will enable CPS teachers to provide targeted instructional interventions that will improve students' reading achievement. The choice model will allow schools to select assessments that are best for them, contributing to the commitment to using the assessment data to improve teaching and learning. The Consultants' services will provide: 1) ability to

administer assessment to the Board defined number of students 2) access to valid, reliable assessment data to be used specifically for the purpose of improving instruction enhancing student achievement; 3) results on a secure, password-protected Web site that allows teachers to view, analyze, and manage data; 4) appropriate professional development to both administer the assessment and use the data to drive instruction. This project will impact approximately 85,000 students in grades K-3; more than 2500 teachers, 460 principals, and all associated area and central office staff.

COMPENSATION: Consultants shall be paid monthly upon invoicing and verification, with total compensation not to exceed \$2,000,000.00 in the aggregate.

REIMBURSABLE EXPENSES: None

AUTHORIZATION: Authorize the General Counsel to include other relevant terms and conditions in the written agreements. Authorize the President and Secretary to execute the agreements. Authorize the Chief Education Officer or designee to execute all ancillary documents required to administer or effectuate the agreements.

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION: Pursuant to Section 5.2 of the 2007 Remedial Program for Minority and Women Business Enterprise Participation in Goods and Services Contracts, the participation goal provisions of the Program do not apply to those vendors who operate as not-for-profit organizations.

Participation goal provisions of the plan will apply for those vendors in the pool who operate as For Profit organizations. The M/WBE requirements for those vendors are 25% total MBE and 5% total WBE participation and each vendor has adhered to the requirements in their individual plans. Those vendors have been identified as:

- Wireless Generation
- CS&C
- Children's Progress
- Pearson

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

FINANCIAL:

Charge to: Department of High School Teaching and Learning: \$2,000,000.00

Fiscal Year: 2010

Source of Funds: Title I

Budget Classification: 13705-332-54125-223014-430089

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.

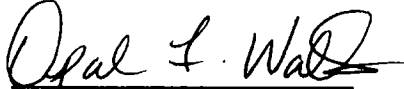
Conflicts – The agreement shall not be legally binding on the Board if entered into in violation of the provisions of 105 ILCS 5/34-21.3 which restricts the employment of, or the letting of contracts to, former Board members during the one year period following expiration or other termination of their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

Indebtedness – The Board's Indebtedness Policy adopted 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:



Opal L. Walls
Chief Purchasing Officer

Approved:




Ron Huberman
Chief Executive Officer

Within Appropriation:



Pedro Martinez
Chief Financial Officer

Approved as to legal form:



Patrick Rocks
General Counsel