

September 28, 2023

**PERMANENT DEBARMENT OF DEBORAH HARRIS**

**THE CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER REPORTS THE FOLLOWING RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Board of Education of the City of Chicago (Board) permanently debar Deborah Harris (Respondent) from doing any business with the Board.

The Board's Chief Procurement Officer mailed and e-mailed a Notice of Proposed Debarment to Respondent on January 18, 2023 initiating debarment proceedings against Respondent based on Section 2(k) of the Board's Debarment Policy, Guidelines Regarding Maintaining Professional Staff/Student Boundaries, Student Travel Policy, and Acceptable Use Policy. During the 2018-19 school year, Respondent was working at Crane High School as an employee for Board vendor, Youth Guidance. While working at Crane, Respondent transported a student in her personal vehicle without parental consent. Respondent also sent numerous text messages to the student and talked to the student on the phone with one call lasting approximately two hours.

Respondent failed to submit a written response to the Notice as required by Section 4(d) of the Board's Debarment Policy. All allegations in the Notice are therefore admitted. See Debarment Policy, §4(d). The Chief Operating Officer has reviewed the record (as defined in Section 4.5(10) of the Debarment Policy), including Investigative Report No. OIG 19-01077, and recommends permanent debarment.

Based on the facts in the record as defined in Section 4.5(10) of the Board's Debarment Policy, the Chief Operating Officer recommends that (1) all existing contracts between the Board and Respondent be terminated; (2) that Respondent be barred from doing business with CPS or otherwise working on CPS property; (3) that Respondent be barred from participating as a subcontractor, vendor, or supplier under any Board contract; (4) that Respondent be barred from being hired or employed by CPS; and (5) that Respondent be declared ineligible for the award of any new Board business.

The Board adopts and approves the recommendation of the Chief Operating Officer.

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

**AFFIRMATIVE ACTION STATUS:** Affirmative Action review is not applicable to this report.

**FINANCIAL:** None.

**GENERAL CONDITIONS:** None.

APPROVED:  
*Charles Mayfield*  
CHARLES MAYFIELD  
Chief Operating Officer

APPROVED AS TO LEGAL FORM:  
*Ruchi Verma*  
RUCHI VERMA  
General Counsel