

BALTIMORE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

DATE: November 19, 2013

TO: **BOARD OF EDUCATION**

FROM: S. Dallas Dance, Superintendent

SUBJECT: **RECOMMENDATIONS FOR AWARD OF CONTRACTS**

ORIGINATOR: Michael G. Sines, Chief Operations Officer

RESOURCE PERSON(S): Rick Gay, Manager, Office of Purchasing
Pradeep Dixit, Executive Director, Physical Facilities

RECOMMENDATION

That the Board of Education approves the following contract recommendations.

See the attached list of contract recommendations presented for consideration by the Board of Education of Baltimore County.

Appendix I – Recommendations for Award of Contracts – Board Exhibit

**Recommendations for Award of Contracts
Board Exhibit – November 19, 2013**

1. Contract Modification: School Buses
Contract #: MWE-801-13

Term: N/A **Extension:** N/A **Contract Ending Date:** 1/31/15
Estimated contract authority: \$ 19,693,368
Estimated modification amount: \$ 7,580,693
New estimated total contract authority: \$ 27,274,061

Board meeting date: November 19, 2013

Description:

On January 8, 2013, the Board approved this contract. The increase in spending authority will cover a two percent increase in cost for the lift-equipped school buses and a third purchase of replacement buses.

Recommendation:

Award of contract modification is recommended to:

American Truck and Bus, Inc.	Annapolis, MD
K. Neal International Truck, Inc.	Hyattsville, MD

Responsible school or office: Division of Business Services

Contact person: Michael G. Sines

Funding source: Operating budget

2. Contract: Behavioral Intervention Program
Contract #: RGA-123-14

Term: 1 year **Extension:** N/A **Contract Ending Date:** 6/30/14
Estimated contract authority: \$ 37,818

Board meeting date: November 19, 2013
Bid issued: N/A
Pre-bid meeting date: N/A
Due date: N/A
No. of vendors issued to: N/A
No. of bids received: N/A
No. of no-bids received: N/A

Description:

This contract consists of a research-based behavioral intervention program. In order to address over identification of students receiving special education services and the disproportional number of suspension of students with disabilities, the Office of Special Education has decided to utilize the Coordinated Early Intervening Services (CEIS) grant to provide identified schools with a research-based behavior program that will be implemented in a before- or after-school program.

The program sets are a strength-based approach to help youth overcome their challenges and improve outcomes in the areas of truancy, behavior, and academics. It is based on sound, empirical principles, including solution-focused brief therapy, social and emotional intelligence, and multi-sensory learning. This program will be implemented in 20 elementary schools identified to receive additional support based on the number of suspensions, the number of students referred to special education, and/or the large number of office referrals during the 2013-2014 school year.

Recommendation:

Award of contract is recommended to:

Why Try LLC	Provo, UT
Responsible school or office:	Department of Special Education and Student Support Services
Contact person:	Debra Brooks
Funding source:	CEIS grant funds

3. Contract: Coordinated Early Intervening Services
Contract #: RGA-124-14

Term: 1 year **Extension:** N/A **Contract Ending Date:** 6/30/14
Estimated contract authority: \$ 832,212

Board meeting date: November 19, 2013
Bid issued: N/A
Pre-bid meeting date: N/A
Due date: N/A
No. of vendors issued to: N/A
No. of bids received: N/A
No. of no-bids received: N/A

Description:

This contract consists of coordinated early intervening services. Elementary schools identified to participate in Coordinated Early Intervening Services (CEIS) for the 2013-2014 school year are: Winfield, Shady Springs, Sandy Plains, Edmondson Heights, Edgemere, Hawthorne, Pleasant Plains, Randallstown, Powhatan, Dogwood, Berkshire, Lansdowne, Elmwood, Essex, Featherbed Lane, Deep Creek, Baltimore Highlands, Victory Villa, Timber Grove, and Woodmoor.

The program will service students with behavioral concerns with overlapping deficits in academic achievement, self-control, critical thinking and problem solving, and social skills.

BCPS is diligently working to decrease the number and the over-identification of students being referred to receive special education services for emotional and behavioral disabilities. With this in mind, BCPS is charged to implement after-school programs to address adverse student behavior in an effort to reduce classroom disruptions, office referrals, student suspensions, and referrals to reduce special education services while increasing attendance and student academic success during the regular school day.

Partnership with Support By Design will allow BCPS to offer a continuum of customized services for students and staff. The H.O.P.E. (Helping Our Pupils Excel) After-School Venture Program is designed for general education students who need the support of a very structured learning environment with a consistent behavior modification program.

The purpose of this contract is to provide service to BCPS in interventions for students who display adverse behaviors in general academic settings. This venture will serve as a prevention mechanism for disproportionate referral of students to special education and decrease the disproportionate number of student receiving out-of-school suspensions. This partnership will also offer unique collaboration opportunities that will be provided through a hands-on approach, with continuous feedback and strategic solutions for a variety of district and school needs.

Evaluation of this program will use:

Internal and external electronic data collection and reporting tools.

Survey for school personnel, parents, and students to identify positive outcomes of students.

Students identified as needing additional support during mid-year evaluations will be provided detailed behavioral intervention strategies to support them throughout the school day.

Recommendation:

Award of contract is recommended to:

Support By Design LLC.

Towson, MD

Responsible school or office:

Department of Special Education and Student Support Services

Contact person:

Debra Brooks

Funding source:

CEIS grant funds

4. Contract: Data Networking, Telephone, and Radio Communication Cabling, Installation, and Repair (State of Maryland #060B1400067)

Contract #: RGA-111-14

Term: 3 years **Extension:** N/A **Contract Ending Date:** 10/19/16

Estimated contract authority: \$ 4,800,000

Board meeting date: November 19, 2013

Bid issued: N/A

Pre-bid meeting date: N/A

Due date: N/A

No. of vendors issued to: N/A

No. of bids received: N/A

No. of no-bids received: N/A

Description:

This contract consists of providing installation, repair, and removal of cabling relating to data network, telephone, and radio systems within schools and offices, including parts/materials and labor. Cabling installation can be inside and outside of a building, underground, and aerial.

This award of contract has employed the cooperative bidding process. The Education Article requires local boards of education to select the lowest responsible bidder, but this requirement does not apply to: “a county board's participation in contracts for goods or commodities that are awarded by other public agencies or by intergovernmental purchasing organizations if the lead agency for the contract follows public bidding procedures.” Md. Code Ed. Ann §5-112 (a)(3) Additionally, §4-123(a)(1) of the Education Article provides that “A county board may enter into an agreement for the cooperative or joint administration of programs with one or more: county boards; (ii) Other educational institutions or agencies; and (iii) Boards of county commissioners or county councils” relating to “(2)(ii) purchasing.”

Recommendation:

Award of contract is recommended to:

Absolute Underground, Inc.	Hanover, MD
CCI Systems, Inc.	Iron Mountain, MI
D-Js Underground Cable Co.	Bryans Road, MD
FiberPlus, Inc.	Jessup, MD
Henkels & McCoy, Inc. (H&M)	Blue Bell, PA
Highlander Contracting Co.	Baltimore, MD
KCI Convergent Technologies	Hanover, MD
Leading Technology Solutions, Inc.	Baltimore, MD
Midasco, LLC	Elkridge, MD
Oneida Communications, Inc.	Upper Marlboro, MD

Pfeiffer Engineering & Construction Inc.
(PEI)
Plexus Communications Group
Royal Plus Electric, Inc.
Skyline Network Engineering, LLC
Southern Maryland Cable, Inc. (SMC)
TEL-NET Group, Inc.
Verizon Select Services, Inc.

Lewes, DE
Baltimore, MD
Ocean City, MD
Glen Burnie, MD
Tracy's Landing, MD
Baltimore, MD
Silver Spring, MD

Responsible school or office:

Department of Information Technology

Contact person:

Lloyd Brown

Funding source:

Operating budget

5. Contract: Early Intervening Services
Contract #: RGA-125-14

Term: 1 year **Extension:** N/A **Contract Ending Date:** 6/30/14
Estimated contract authority: \$ 75,000

Board meeting date: November 19, 2013
Bid issued: N/A
Pre-bid meeting date: N/A
Due date: N/A
No. of vendors issued to: N/A
No. of bids received: N/A
No. of no-bids received: N/A

Description:

This contract consists of early intervening services. Elementary schools identified to participate in Coordinated Early Intervening Services (CEIS) for the 2013-2014 school year are: Winfield, Shady Springs, Sandy Plains, Edmondson Heights, Edgemere, Hawthorne, Pleasant Plains, Randallstown, Powhatan, Dogwood, Berkshire, Lansdowne, Elmwood, Essex, Featherbed Lane, Deep Creek, Baltimore Highlands, Victory Villa, Timber Grove, and Woodmoor.

The program will provide service to students to decrease negative behaviors (absenteeism, poor grades, suspension) and to enhance positive, personal, and social competencies (self-discipline, judgment, communication skills, life skills, and team building).

BCPS will be working with the vendor to:

- Decrease number of suspensions.
- Decrease number of students being referred to special education services.
- Improve grades.
- Increase self-esteem.
- Promote healthier life styles.
- Encourage positive peer relationships.

The program will track student performance for the purpose of capturing information to be used for program performance analysis. Captured data includes pre and post assessments, daily attendance records, and monthly progress notes.

Recommendation:

Award of contract is recommended to:

Youth Sports Program

Baltimore, MD

Responsible school or office:

Department of Special Education and Student
Support Services

Contact person:

Debra Brooks

Funding source:

CEIS grant funds

6. Contract: Freight Services
Contract #: JMI-604-14

Term: 5 years **Extension:** N/A **Contract Ending Date:** 11/30/18
Estimated contract authority: \$ 200,000

Board meeting date: November 19, 2013
Bid issued: September 19, 2013
Pre-bid meeting date: N/A
Due date: October 3, 2013
No. of vendors issued to: 16
No. of bids received: 8
No. of no-bids received: 1

Description:

This contract consists of providing freight transport services for textbooks and related curriculum materials on an as-needed basis.

Recommendation:

Award of contract is recommended to:

Academic Asset Management, Inc.	Ellicott City, MD
Ace Relocation Systems, Inc.	Upper Marlboro, MD
Allen & Son Moving Storage, Inc.	Baltimore, MD
Book-IT Distribution	Oak Ridge, NJ
Deluxe Delivery Systems, Inc.	Washington, DC
Freight Solutions	Edwardsville, IL
John S. Connor, Inc.	Glen Burnie, MD
Leveraged Logistics Inc. dba Educational Shippers Association	Richmond, IN

Responsible school or office: Department of Fiscal Services

Contact person: Barbara Burnopp

Funding source: Operating budget

7. **Contract:** Growth Mindset and Critical Thinking Materials
Contract #: JNI-779-14

Term: 1 year **Extension:** N/A **Contract Ending Date:** 10/31/14
Estimated contract authority: \$ 225,000

Board meeting date: November 19, 2013
Bid issued: N/A
Pre-bid meeting date: N/A
Due date: N/A
No. of vendors issued to: N/A
No. of bids received: N/A
No. of no-bids received: N/A

Description:

This contract consists of professional development and resources designed to provide participants with an introduction to the growth mindset theory and critical thinking strategies.

The Critical Thinking and Growth Mindset professional development has been approved by the Maryland State Department of Education Division of Student, Family, and School Support as an effective method to reduce the achievement gap between subgroups of students.

The reasoning and problem-solving materials are designed to not only provide training for teachers regarding expectations for learning, but also to provide access to hands-on and Web-based resources for all content areas to use as part of Tier I small group instruction. A take-home resource center will be facilitated through the work of the parent service coordinator so that parents may borrow the materials to enhance their child’s critical thinking skills at home.

The student and parent materials will be distributed to the following four focus elementary schools: Featherbed Lane, Sandy Plains, Riverview, and Winfield. It is anticipated that additional schools will have access to these materials.

The critical thinking and growth mindset materials and training are aligned with Goal 1, Academics, in *Blueprint 2.0*.

Goal #1. Every student will experience high academic achievement and continuous growth by participating in a rigorous instructional program designed to raise the academic bar and close achievement gaps so that every student will become a globally competitive citizen in a culturally diverse world.

These materials also fulfill Strategic Initiative F of the *Blueprint 2.0*, by closing the gaps between student groups.

Initiative F. Implement the Differentiated-Tiered Support Model to allocate resources and supports to all schools based upon student achievement and need.

KEY ACTIONS

1. Establish, monitor, and evaluate the Differentiated-Tiered Support Model that identifies schools as belonging in Tiers I, II, or III according to student achievement data and need for services.
2. Implement a tier-based plan for the equitable allocation of staffing and other resources including vertical articulation among school-based instructional leadership and central office leadership that provide differentiated supports.

The specific goals of the effort will be measured to determine effectiveness using the following methods:

- Teacher and parent perception data, teacher interviews, parent surveys.
- School-level student data, pre and post cognitive assessment, student interviews.
- Maryland School Assessment (MSA) gap reduction for the identified subgroups as measured by 2014 MSA data.

Recommendation:

Award of contract is recommended to:

Think Fun

Baltimore, MD

Responsible school or office:

Department of Special Programs

Contact person:

Kathleen McMahan

Funding source:

FY14 Title I School Improvement 1003(a)
Focus schools and Title I schools