

AUTHORIZE THE FIRST AND SECOND (FINAL) RENEWAL AGREEMENT WITH OMBUDSMAN EDUCATIONAL SERVICES, LTD. AND PATHWAYS IN EDUCATION-ILLINOIS FOR ALTERNATIVE LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAM SERVICES

THE INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT/CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORTS THE FOLLOWING DECISION:

Authorize the first and second (final) renewal agreement with Ombudsman Educational Services, Ltd. and Pathways In Education-Illinois to provide Alternative Learning Opportunities Program (ALOP) services to the Office of Network Support at an estimated annual cost set forth in the Financial Section of this report. A written document exercising this option is currently being negotiated. No payment shall be made to Ombudsman Educational Services, Ltd. or Pathways In Education-Illinois during the option period prior to execution of the written document. The authority granted herein shall automatically rescind in the event a written document is not executed within 90 days of the date of this Board Report. Information pertinent to this option is stated below.

Specification Number : 23-466

Contract Administrator : Mckinney, Rovetta / 773-553-2280

VENDOR:

- 1) Vendor # 10725
OMBUDSMAN EDUCATIONAL SERVICES,
LTD.
28100 N. Ashley Circle
Libertyville, IL 60048

Sue Leuser
847 367-6383

Ownership: For Profit Corporation
The Halifax Group - 96.39%
Twin Brook Capital Partners - 3.61%

- 2) Vendor # 18327
PATHWAYS IN EDUCATION-ILLINOIS
320 N. HALSTEAD ST., STE 210
PASADENA, CA 91107

Lisa Schwartz
626 204-2550

Ownership: Not For Profit

USER INFORMATION :

Contact:

11110 - Network Support

42 West Madison Street

Chicago, IL 60602

Morris, Sydney J

773-553-3026

Project 02551 - Options Network

Manager: 4934 S. Wabash Ave.

Chicago, IL 60615

Mikolajczyk, Molly

773-553-3065

ORIGINAL AGREEMENT:

The original Agreement (authorized by Board Report 24-0425-PR3) in the amount of \$60,000,000 is for a term commencing July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2026, with the Board having two (2) options to renew for one (1) year terms. The original agreement was awarded on a competitive basis pursuant to Board Rule 7-3. The agreement was further amended (authorized at the September 25, 2025 Board Meeting) to increase the Not To Exceed amount by \$5,000,000 from \$60,000,000 to \$65,000,000.

OPTION PERIOD:

The term of this agreement is being renewed for two (2) years commencing July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2028.

OPTION PERIODS REMAINING:

There are no option periods remaining.

SCOPE OF SERVICES:

Vendors will continue to provide ALOP services pursuant to Section 13B of the Illinois School Code(105ILCS 5/13B-1 et seq.), which will include rigorous, high quality, comprehensive education program services for high school-aged youth who have been out-of-school, are significantly off-track for graduation, are chronically truant, or are otherwise at-risk for academic failure. Vendor Program(s) shall comply with CPS and State graduation and promotion requirements and shall be fully aligned to Illinois learning standards, but shall also be tailored to meet the needs of individual students. Vendor Program(s) shall provide personalized learning plans, comprehensive social-emotional supports, and intensive post-secondary planning to all students. Vendors will be approved to serve the following number of students for the term of each of their agreements: Ombudsman Educational Services, Ltd (up to 1,500 students) and Pathways in Education-Illinois, Inc (up to 1150 students).

DELIVERABLES:

Vendors shall to provide:

- A Program with adequate and appropriate equipment and supplies.
- Areas in school conducive to learning separate from the lunch and other activity rooms.
- A minimum 1:15 teacher to student ratio, and a minimum 1:60 Type 73-certified counselor to student ratio, and shall provide sufficient staff (teacher aides, related service providers, etc.) to effectively manage, support, and educate students consistent with their needs.
- Administer academic progress and other assessments as required by ISBE and as directed by the Board in its sole discretion for Options Schools.
- A student success plan for each enrolled student in accordance with Article 13B-15.15 of the Illinois School Code.

- A multi-tiered system of support for social and emotional skills introduction for all students that includes a trauma-informed, evidence-based interventions and strategies to support at-risk students who have experienced high levels of trauma.
- Programs with a special component dedicated to truancy with attempts to encourage consistent attendance of students and decrease truancy.
- Daily and monthly attendance reports according to CPS guidelines and policies.
- A comprehensive postsecondary programming process, with all post-secondary plans for all students logged in the district-designated platform for postsecondary planning.

OUTCOMES:

Vendors' services will ensure that:- All ALOP students earn credits toward graduation at an accelerated rate.

- Schoolwide performance in accordance with the metrics and designations of the Options School Accountability Policy (23-0928-PO3), or any subsequent policies that replace it.
- Attendance rate will be at least 70%.
- A school-wide credit attainment rate of at least 80%.
- Students create post-secondary plans upon intake and have post-secondary plans upon graduation.
- Students are provided the curricular and credit opportunities to earn high school diplomas

BUSINESS ENTERPRISE PARTICIPATION:

Pursuant to the Remedial Policy for Minority-Owned Business Enterprise (MBE) and Women-Owned Business Enterprise (WBE) policy participation in Goods and Services contracts, with aspirational goals of 30% MBE and 7% WBE. The vendor provides services that are niche and the industry has limited market share to participate in the aspirational goals, congruent with the marketplace for this category of products, services, the MBE and WBE Policy is an excluded transaction. Said exclusion to the aspirational goals are warranted and merited by the Office of Business Enterprise Development and Environmental Social Governance.

FINANCIAL:

Fund 115, Unit 11201 - Access and Enrollment, Unit 12510 - Information and Technology Services, Unit 13610 - Innovation and Incubation

FY27 - \$35,000,000

FY28 - \$35,000,000

Not to exceed \$70,000,000 for the two (2) year term. Future year funding is contingent upon budget appropriation and approval.

GENERAL CONDITIONS:

The agreement shall contain general conditions including but not limited to the following: Inspector General provision, in accordance with 105 ILCS 5/34-13.1; Conflicts provision, in accordance with 105 ILCS 5/34-21.3; Indebtedness provision, in accordance with the Board's Indebtedness Policy adopted June 26, 1996 pursuant to Board Report 96-0626-PO3; Ethics provision, in accordance with the Board's Ethics Code as amended; and, Contingent Liability provision.

Approved for Consideration:




PATRICIA HERNANDEZ
Chief Procurement Officer

Approved:



MACQUILINE KING, Ed.D
Interim Superintendent/Chief Executive Officer

Approved: 



ELIZABETH K. BARTON
Acting General Counsel