

**RATIFY AN AGREEMENT WITH
BRONNER GROUP, LLC FOR CONSULTING SERVICES**

THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORTS THE FOLLOWING DECISION:

Ratify an agreement with Bronner Group, LLC ("Bronner" or "Consultant") to conduct a basic skills assessment of all CPS teachers and candidates, and provide targeted training for teachers below basic skill proficiency levels for the Offices of Technology Services ("OTS") and Professional Development, at a cost not to exceed \$1,461,000.00. These services are being funded by the State of Illinois Fiscal Year 2003 Closing the Gap Grant. These services were obtained without prior Board approval. Consultant was selected on a non-competitive basis because of (a) its experience in providing training for the Chicago Public Schools, Illinois Secretary of State, Cook County, the City of Chicago (44 departments) and the Chicago Transit Authority; and (b) Consultant's custom development of the interactive online assessment tool designed for OTS. A written agreement for Consultant's services is currently being negotiated. 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.: 02-250230

CONSULTANT: Bronner Group, LLC
120 North LaSalle Street, Suite 1300
Chicago, Illinois 60602-2415
Contact: Gila J. Bronner, Pres.
Telephone No.: 312-759-5101
Vendor No.: 29783

USERS: Office of Technology Services
125 South Clark Street, 3rd Floor
Chicago, Illinois 60603
Contact: Elaine L. Williams, Chief Technology Officer
Telephone No.: 773-553-1300

Office of Professional Development
125 South Clark Street, 15th Floor
Chicago, Illinois 60603
Contact: Al Bertani, Chief Officer
Telephone No.: 773-553-3255

TERM: The term of this agreement shall commence on November 14, 2002 and end on June 30, 2003.

EARLY TERMINATION: The Board has the right to terminate this agreement with thirty (30) days written notice.

SCOPE OF SERVICES: Bronner will provide the following:

- Determine current basic computer skills levels for all CPS teachers utilizing the Computer Online Skills Assessment "COSAS" tool. The following eight (8) basic computer skills will be assessed under the program:
 1. Acceptable Use Policies
 2. The Internet
 3. E-Mail
 4. Hardware
 5. Presentation Software
 6. Microsoft Word
 7. Microsoft Excel
 8. Operating Systems

- Utilize COSA scores to develop three-hundred sixty (360) hours of targeted computer basic skills training programs for high school and elementary school support.
- Conduct post-training assessment for all teachers completing targeted training sessions to determine effectiveness of training support.
- Conduct ongoing quality assurance and management reviews.
- Develop and present a report to management on a regular basis detailing progress.
- Construct a detailed training work plan specifically addressing those tasks necessary for the preparation and delivery of the Bronner training courses, including the assignment of resources by name and the anticipated task durations.
- Coordinate with the Area Instructional Technology Coordinators development of training plans for all schools with targeted computer basic skills training programs

DELIVERABLES: Bronner will provide following:

- Administer Computer Online Skills Assessment to all High School and Elementary School teachers (estimated at 26,000 teachers).
- Administer On-Line Skills Assessment to 2003-2004 teacher candidates, as requested by the Department of Human Resources.
- Maintain online and hardcopy reference support material.
- Coordinate development of training plans for teachers with each Area Instructional Technology Coordinator.
- Conduct post-training assessments to determine effectiveness of training programs.
- Provide periodic reports on pre- and post-assessment results, as requested.

OUTCOMES: Consultant's services shall result in the Board receiving the following services:

- The current computer skills of CPS teachers will be assessed using the COSA tool (targeted goal - 80%).
- A total of three-hundred sixty (360) hours of targeted training will be provided for teachers scoring below 85% on any of the eight (8) assessment categories.
- The Office of Professional Development (including the re-certification and invocation units) will have access to accurate and comprehensive data on the computer skill sets of all CPS teachers taking the assessment.
- Data from the pre- and post-training assessments will be available for use in connection with meeting the technology literacy reporting requirements of the No Child Left Behind Act.
- Basic computer skills of candidates for the 2003-2004 school year will have been assessed.

COMPENSATION: Consultant shall be paid as follows: Upon invoicing, not to exceed the sum of \$1,461,000.00.

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

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION: This contract is in full compliance with the goals required by the Revised Remedial Plan for Minority and Women Business Enterprise Contract Participation (M/WBE Plan).

The M/WBE participation goals for the contract are: 35% Total MBE, 22% Total African American, 10% Total Hispanic, 2% Total Asian and 5% Total WBE.

The vendor has identified and scheduled the following firms and percentages:

Total MBE % - 35 %

Total African American – 22 %

Catalyst Consulting Group
211 W. Wacker Drive – Suite 400
Chicago, IL 60606

\$160,710.00 11 %

certified until August 1, 2003

Synch Solutions, Inc.
200 West Madison
Chicago, IL 60606

\$160,710.00 11%

certified until February 28, 2003

Total Hispanic – 10%

Computer Services Consulting
1613 S. Michigan – Suite 110.
Chicago, IL 60616

\$146,100.00 10 %

certified until September 3, 2003

Total Asian – 2 %

E.C. Ortiz Co.
400 E. Randolph Dr. – Suite 803
Chicago, IL 60601
Total WBE – 65 %

\$26,220.00 2 %

certified until March 3, 2003

Bronner Group, LLC
120 N. LaSalle St. – Suite 1300
Chicago, IL 60608

\$73,050.00 65%

certified until June 1, 2003

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

FINANCIAL: Charge to Offices of Technology Services and Professional Development : \$1,461,000.00
Closing The Gap Grant Funding
Budget Classification No. 2000-239-xxx-1112-Variou s \$1,461,000.00

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.

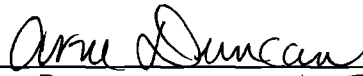
Contingent Liability – The agreement shall contain the clause that any expenditure beyond the current fiscal year is deemed a contingent liability, subject to appropriation in the subsequent fiscal year budget(s).

Approved for Consideration:



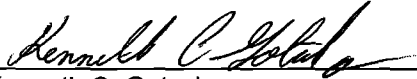
Anita Rocha
Acting Chief Purchasing Officer

Approved:



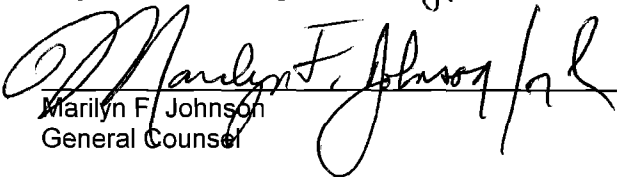
Arne Duncan
Chief Executive Officer (BY PA1)

Within Appropriation:



Kenneth C. Gotsch
Chief Fiscal Officer

Approved as to Legal Form: *HW*



Marilyn F. Johnson
General Counsel