

August 25, 2004

**APPROVE PAYMENT TO NORTH CENTRAL ASSOCIATION (NCA)
FOR ANNUAL HIGH SCHOOL ACCREDITATION DUES**

THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORTS THE FOLLOWING DECISION:

Approve payment of annual accreditation dues to North Central Association for 75 high schools for the 2004-2005 school year at a cost of \$49,500.00 which includes \$4,500 due for nine new small high schools that were added during the 2003-2004 school year. The North Central Association has been the accrediting agency for the Chicago Public high schools for the past 100 plus years. Continued membership is required for accreditation and is effectuated by payment of the annual membership fee. Therefore, no written agreement is required for payment of annual accreditation dues. Pertinent information is stated below.

SPECIFICATION NO.: 03-250188

VENDOR: North Central Association
Arizona State University
P.O. Box 874705
Tempe, AZ 85287-4705
(800) 525-9517
Vendor # 28574

USER: Office of Research, Evaluation & Accountability
125 South Clark Street, 11th Floor
Chicago, IL 60603
Daniel Bugler
(773) 553-2324

DESCRIPTION OF ACCREDITATION: The North Central Association of Colleges and Schools is an independent accreditation and evaluation organization that provides assurance that schools are meeting minimal standards of quality that have been established, enforced, and continually updated by educators for over 100 years. NCA has quantitative standards that describe the resources and staff training needed to offer a quality instructional program for students. It also imposes both input and process standards and provides a high quality of school improvement model, a network for peer support and staff development materials.

DESCRIPTION OF PURCHASE: Membership dues are \$600.00 per school and for the 2004-2005 school year there are 75 Chicago Public High Schools that are NCA members. There is a payment of \$4,500.00 owed for the nine new small high schools that were added during the 2003-2004 school year. Payment provides that each high school is included in the accreditation and evaluation process which indicates that each school must meet agreed upon standards established by the seventeen states involved in the association. The dues paid will cover the 75 high schools that currently issue diplomas in the name of the school and cover the accreditation for the 2004-2005 school year.

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION: A review of Minority and Women Business Enterprise participation was precluded due to the contract being substantially completed.

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

04-0825-ED14

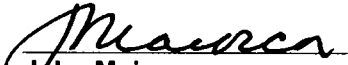
FINANCIAL: Charge to the Office of Research, Evaluation & Accountability: \$49,500.00 FY 2005
Budget Classification: 0012-210-000-7081-5420 Source of Funds: Gen. Ed Fund

Approved for Consideration:



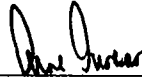
Barbara Eason Watkins
Chief Education Officer

Within Appropriation:



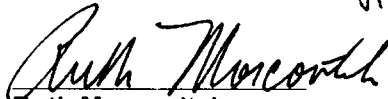
John Maiorca
Chief Financial Officer

Approved:



Arne Duncan
Chief Executive Officer

Approved as to legal form:



Ruth Moscovitch
General Counsel