



**NORTH SLOPE BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
M E M O R A N D U M**

TO: Nancy Rock, Board President
Members of the School Board

THROUGH: David Vadiveloo, Chief School Administrator

DocuSigned by:
David Vadiveloo
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THROUGH: Fadil Limani, Chief Financial Officer

DocuSigned by:
Fadil Limani

FROM: Lori Roth, Director Student Services

DocuSigned by:
Lori Roth
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DATE: June 12, 2022

SUBJECT: Contracts over \$10,000-More Than Words

**Memo No. SB22-220
(Action Item)**

2020-2025 STRATEGIC PLAN SUMMARY

1.0 STUDENT SUCCESS: All students will reach their intellectual potential and achieve academic success through integrating Iñupiaq knowledge systems into the core content areas and focusing on the development of the Whole Child.

1.7 STUDENT WELL-BEING: Support the physical, nutritional, mental, and social-emotional health of all students.

4.0 FINANCIAL & OPERATIONAL STEWARDSHIP: Effectively employ our operational and financial resources to support our strategic goals and long-term stability of the district.

4.2 FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP/MANAGEMENT: Ensure financial management based on what is best for our students.

Issue Summary:

In accordance with applicable Board policy, contracts and MOA's \$10,000 or greater require Board approval. BP 3312.

Background:

More Than Words (Elizabeth Nyang) is new to our School District. Ms. Nyang has worked, and continues to work, for other Alaska School Districts and came highly recommended.

More Than Words (Elizabeth (Edna) Nyang) will provide speech/language services and professional development to our School District staff for speech/language services required by the Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA) and Board Policy 6164.4, to ensure a free and appropriate public education (FAPE) to students with speech/language needs. Ms. Nyang is an Alaska licensed SLP who administers initial speech evaluations, re-evaluations, and file reviews to determine initial or on-going speech/language needs. Ms. Nyang is responsible for providing on-site and/remote services with Student Services staff to support parents, students, and staff with individualized program development, materials development, assistive technology, and direct

services. Ms. Nyang will schedule and provide remote direct services on a one-to-one or small group basis as outlined in student Individual Education Programs (IEP). Ms. Nyang attends federally mandated meetings such as pre-assessment meetings, 90-day transition meetings, initial evaluations, re-evaluation, and IEP meetings.

Ms. Nyang will provide services to Kali School, Meade River School, and Alak School. The other village sites will be served by Sara Ecker, speech/language therapist, and Utqiagvik schools will be served by Donald Zanoft, speech/language therapist.

Length of Contract: This MOA will be valid August 1, 2022 thru June 1, 2023.

Funding Source and Contract Amount:

This MOA is funded through the Title VI-B Special Education grant and the NSBSD General Fund. This MOA will fund up to 71 contractor days and not to exceed amount of \$47,925. In addition to the contracted days, the MOA includes travel for an amount not to exceed \$3,500.00. Travel will include for up to 2 trips to Kali School, Meade River School, and Alak School. Travel arrangements will be the sole responsibility of the contractor and the related costs will be included in the invoicing format of the monthly billings for reimbursement.

In addition to the above cost, while on the work site the School District provides housing for the contractor. Moving forward into future years, the District Administration will bring this before the School Board's consideration to include the housing as part of the contract negotiations and incorporate the housing costs into the grant narrative for reimbursement.

The total not to exceed amount of the contract is \$51,425.00.

Grand Funding:

This MOA is funded through the Title VI-B Special Education grant (fund 285. 200.220.000.410) and the NSBSD general fund (100.200.220.000.410).

Available Budget:

The respective contract and related services are temporarily being encumbered under the School District Main Operating Fund Budget Code 100.200.220.000.410. Historically, such contractual obligations were encumbered through Grant Funding specifically within 285.200.220.000.410. Currently, there are no Grant Awards and no available budget for the corresponding contract to be encumbered to such Special Revenue Fund. It is expected that the District will continue to receive a Grant Award for such Program Services for FY22-23, in which at that time the identified encumbrance can be transferred over to the respective Special Revenue Fund and alleviate the encumbrance from the School District Main Operating Fund.

Compliance with BP 3311:

Ms. Nyang is an Alaska licensed speech/language therapist working for a daily rate of \$675.00. Based on Ms. Nyang's Alaska experience, and being new to NSBSD, this rate is within the acceptable range of rates paid across the state of Alaska (neighboring school district rate is \$675.00-

\$725.00/day depending on experience). In support of the approval of a sole-source MOA, this contractor has been an Alaska itinerant speech/language therapist providing remote service delivery and assessments. Ms. Nyang will require minimal training and a minimal adjustment period to provide speech/language services to our students. Due to Ms. Nyang’s previous Alaska on-site and remote work, she will gain familiarity with students and parents quickly, practice pro-active planning/scheduling, be flexible and collaborate to support student progress through the continued development of NSBSD’s remote speech/language services, and on-going State and Federal compliance.

Motion:

“I move that the NSBSD Board of Education approve the above \$10,000 and greater contract for More Than Words, in an amount not to exceed \$51,425.00 as described in this memo and related attachments.”

Motion by _____ Seconded by _____

Advisory Vote _____ Vote _____