



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

TO: Robyn Burke, President
Members of the School Board

THROUGH: David Vadiveloo, Chief School Administrator ^{Dsv}

THROUGH: MJ Geiser, Assistant Superintendent ^{MJG}

FROM: Lori Roth, Director Student Services ^{LR}

DATE: April 28, 2023

SUBJECT: Contracts over \$10,000 -
Next Step Therapy Services (Alison Barnett)

Memo No: SB23-183
(Action Item)

2020-2025 STRATEGIC PLAN SUMMARY

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

4.0 Financial & Operational Stewardship: Effectively employ our operational and financial resources to support our strategic goals and long-term stability of the district.

4.1 Financial Stewardship: Ensure financial management based on what is best for our students.

Issue Summary:

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

Next Step Therapy (Alison Barnett) will provide services to student's who qualify for physical therapy services as described in the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and Board Policy 6164.4 to ensure a Free and Appropriate Public Education (FAPE). Ms. Barnett is an Alaska licensed physical therapist who administers initial physical therapy evaluations, re-evaluations, and file reviews to determine initial or on-going physical therapy needs. Ms. Barnett is responsible to provide on-site and/or remote services in the areas of individualized program development, materials development, assistive technology, training, and direct services as stated in the student's Individual Education Programs (IEP). Ms. Barnett will attend federally mandated meetings such as pre-assessment meetings, 90-day transition meetings, initial evaluations, re-evaluation, and IEP meetings. Please see attached MOA for additional responsibilities.

Background:

Next Step Therapy (Alison Barnett) successfully worked for NSBSD for the 22-23 school year. She established relationships with staff and families in Utqiagvik and the surrounding villages. In FY24 Ms. Barnett will continue to provide services to all NSBSD sites. Ms. Barnett is the only physical therapist contracted by NSBSD and will be available to provide services to Harold Kaveolook School, Nunamiut School, Nuiqsut Trapper School, Meade River School, Kali School, Alak School, Fred Ipalook Elementary School, Hopson Middle School, Barrow High School, Tikiġaq and Kiita Learning Community.

Length of Contract: This MOA will be valid August 1, 2023 thru June 1, 2024.

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 45 contractor days (no change from FY23) and may not to exceed \$30,375.00 (no change from FY23). Travel for Ms. Barnett has been increased for FY24 from \$5,000.00 in FY23 to \$6,500.00 in FY 24 for up to 2 trips per site with physical therapy needs. Ms. Barnett’s MOA is not to exceed \$36,875.00 (an increase of \$1,500.00 for travel). No NSBSD employee benefits are associated with this MOA.

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).

Compliance with BP 3311:

Ms. Barnett is an Alaska licensed physical therapist working for a daily rate of \$675.00 (same as FY23) per day. This rate is within the acceptable range of rates paid across the state of Alaska (neighboring school district rate is (\$675.00-\$710.00/day). In support of a sole-source MOA, this contractor is an Alaska itinerant physical therapist and will require minimal training and a minimal adjustment period to provide physical therapy services to our students. Ms. Barnett will provide continuity of services, familiarity for students and parents, continuity of practice, pro-active planning, continued development of remote occupational therapy services, and on-going compliance with NSBSD special education processes. Ms. Barnett contracts with NWASD providing the opportunity for our 2 districts to cost share travel expenses.

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 SY23-24, 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.

Proposed Motion:

“I move that the NSBSD Board of Education approve the above \$10,000 and greater proposal for Next Step Therapy Services (Alison Barnett, physical therapist), in the amount not to exceed \$36,875.00 as described in this memo and attachments.”

Moved by _____ Seconded by _____
Vote _____

Signature: David Vadiveloo
David Vadiveloo (May 3, 2023 21:55 AKDT)
Email: david.vadiveloo@nsbsd.org

Signature: Mary Jane Geiser
Mary Jane Geiser (May 4, 2023 10:48 AKDT)
Email: maryjane.geiser@nsbsd.org

Signature: Lori Roth
Lori Roth (May 4, 2023 09:07 AKDT)
Email: lori.roth@nsbsd.org