



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: March 28, 2023

SUBJECT: Contracts over \$10,000
DJZ, LLC (Donald Zanoff, speech/language services)

Memo No: SB23-149
(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/MANAGEMENT: 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.

DJZ, LLC (Donald Zanoff) has provided speech/language services and professional development to NSBSD staff for related services required under 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. Mr. Zanoff, an Alaska licensed provider, administers initial speech evaluations, re-evaluations, or file reviews for student(s) to determine initial or on-going speech/language needs. Mr. Zanoff is responsible to provide on-site and/or remote services. He provides support with individualized program development, materials development, assistive technology, and direct services. Mr. Zanoff schedules, and provides, remote direct services on a one-to-one or small group basis as outlined in Individual Education Programs (IEP). To support the growing needs in Utqiagvik, Mr. Zanoff provided training, scheduling, and on-going support to Ipalook speech aides. Mr. Zanoff attends speech related federally mandated meetings such as pre-assessment planning meetings, 90-day transition meetings, initial evaluations, re-evaluation, and IEP meetings. Please see attached MOA for additional responsibilities.

Background:

Mr. Zanoff has provided speech/language services for the students of the North Slope Borough School District since 2006. Mr. Zanoff's extensive on-site experience within the North Slope region was

invaluable during the development of NSBSD's remote service delivery model for speech language services. Mr. Zanoff currently provides speech/language services to Ipalook Elementary School, Hopson Middle School, Barrow High School, Kiita Learning Community. Mr. Zanoff also provides training and support to a speech paraprofessional located at Ipalook Elementary School. Within this MOA, Mr. Zanoff will support an Extended School Year (ESY) program (10 days in August) to qualified students.

Length of Contract: This MOA will be valid August 1, 2023, thru June 1, 2024 (these dates will include fall ESY).

Funding Source and Contract Amount:

This MOA is funded through the Title VI-B Special Education grant, Title VI-B 619 Special Education Preschool grant, and the NSBSD General Fund. This MOA will fund up to 175 contractor at a daily rate of 710.00/day (same as FY23) and may not to exceed \$124,250.00 (same as FY23). This will include 10 days of Extended School Year services in August. Travel for Mr. Zanoff has been estimated up to \$3,000.00 (same as last year) for up to 2 trips from Bozeman, Montana. The total for this MOA is not to exceed \$127,250.00. 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), Title VI-B 619 Special Education Preschool grant (315.200.220.000.410) and the NSBSD general fund (100.200.220.000.410).

Compliance with BP 3311:

Mr. Zanoff is an Alaska licensed speech language therapist working for a daily rate of \$710.00 per day. He has been an independent contractor with the North Slope Borough School District since 2006. Since that time, Mr. Zanoff has successfully fulfilled all MOA requirements resulting in NSBSD and families being pleased with the services he provides. Based on Mr. Zanoff's experience, this rate is within the acceptable range of rates paid across the state of Alaska (neighboring school district rate is \$650.00-\$725.00/day depending on experience). In support of the approval of a sole-source MOA, this contractor will require no training and no adjustment period to provide speech/language services to our students. The continuation of Mr. Zanoff as a contractor will provide continuity of services, familiarity for students and parents, continuity of practice, pro-active planning, continued development of remote speech/language services, and on-going compliance with NSBSD special education processes. Not providing a sole-source contract and responding to a bidding process would result in students and families having to re-establish communication, re-develop trusting relationships, compensating for the loss of historical knowledge, and cause a disruption in continuity of student support in the Student Services Department.

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 and 315.200.220.000.410. 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.

Proposed Motion:

“I move that the NSBSD Board of Education approve the above \$10,000 and greater proposal for *DJZ, LLC* (Donald Zanoff, speech/language pathologist) in the amount not to exceed \$127,250, as described in this memo and attachments.”

Moved by _____ Seconded by _____

Vote _____

Signature: *Ds Vadiveloo*
Ds Vadiveloo (Apr 2, 2023 21:45 AKDT)
Email: david.vadiveloo@nsbsd.org

Signature: *Mary Jane Geiser*
Mary Jane Geiser (Apr 1, 2023 17:19 AKDT)
Email: maryjane.geiser@nsbsd.org

Signature: *Lori Roth*
Lori Roth (Apr 2, 2023 21:28 AKDT)
Email: lori.roth@nsbsd.org