



NORTH SLOPE BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
MEMORANDUM

TO: Robyn Burke, President
Members of the Board

THROUGH: David Vadiveloo, Superintendent DsV

THROUGH: Tracy Mulvenon, Assistant Superintendent TM

FROM: Tenna Pili, Director of Iñupiaq Education TJ

DATE: June 11, 2024

SUBJECT: Contracts over \$50,000
Partnow Consulting – Pat Partnow

Memo No: SB24-174
(Action Item)

NSBSD Strategic Plan Goal:

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.

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

NSBSD Policy Manual:

BP 3311, Bids: All purchases in the amount of \$20,000 or more shall be based, when possible, on three competitive bids. The Superintendent or designee shall establish procedures to ensure that formal advertised bids are solicited for purchases over \$50,000.

BP 3312, Contracts: The Superintendent or designee may enter into contracts and memoranda of agreement on behalf of the district. All contracts and memorandums of agreement with a dollar value of \$10,000 or greater must be approved by the School Board.

Issue Summary:

The district has worked with Partnow Consulting since 2003 and through that time contributed to the formation of the Iñupiaq Learning Framework, 22 cultural-based unit kits in all grade levels, helped create our local courses like North Slope History and Culture, North Slope Government, Alaska Studies, and has helped review, align, and vet the over 300 cultural-based units that were developed by our district teachers. Although we can purchase materials and resources written and authored by people and companies elsewhere, we will not receive the same quality place-based materials written by an expert in curriculum writing, Understanding by Design, and someone who has spent decades submersing themselves in our culture, language, history, and traditions. This is a key piece in creating local, place-based curriculum that encompasses stories and concepts that are most relatable and understandable by our students of the NSBSD. Pat will continue to help support the expansion and enhancement of this work as we move forward. She will also support writing teacher guides for implementation on the newly local authored book, “Crane Story II,” and the upcoming Early Reader Series, which are both authored by Cathy Tagnak Rexford. She will continue serving as a mentor and





guide for teachers and staff, curriculum writing, and support professional development needs. As we move to focus on the Culturally Responsive Instruction domain of the NSBSD Pedagogy next school year, Pat will provide support, expertise, and guidance in this area for teachers and staff.

Background:

Partnow Consulting is owned and operated by Patricia (Pat) Partnow. Pat has worked with the District and the Iñupiaq Education Department since 2003 and was a contractor this past school year supporting the work and initiatives in the Iñupiaq Education Department. She has helped with the planning and development of the Iñupiaq Learning Framework, has supported the work within Project Mapkuq, has written, published, and created materials, books, and resources for our cultural-based unit kits, and has offered expertise in various content areas in curriculum development. Pat has an all-encompassed understanding and appreciation for the Iñupiaq culture due to her experience with her work in our communities and with our district. She understands the depth of knowledge and multifaceted complexity when it comes to our culture, history, language and traditions.

Length of Contract:

The length of the contract would be July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025.

Funding Source and Purchase/Contract Amount:

This contract would come out of the Iñupiaq Education Department Professional & Technical budget Account Code: 100.200.120.000.410, in the amount of and not to exceed \$52,910.00.

Available Budget:

100.200.120.000.410

Compliance with BP 3311:

The administration requests that the requirements of BP3311 be waived in this instance.

Proposed Motion:

“I move that the NSBSD Board of Education approve the above \$50,000 and greater proposal and related contract with Partnow Consulting, as described in this memo and related attachments.”

Moved by _____ Seconded by _____

Advisory Vote _____ Vote _____

Signature: *DsVadiveloo*
DsVadiveloo (Jun 12, 2024 17:47 AKDT)

Email: david.vadiveloo@nsbsd.org

Signature: *JEM*
Tracy Mulvenon (Jun 12, 2024 20:12 AKDT)

Email: tracy.mulvenon@nsbsd.org

Signature: *Tennessee Judkins*
Tennessee Judkins (Jun 13, 2024 10:12 AKDT)

Email: tennessee.judkins@nsbsd.org

