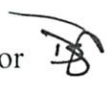




**NORTH SLOPE BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**M E M O R A N D U M**

**TO:** Robyn Burke, President  
Members of the School Board

**THROUGH:** David Vadiveloo, Chief School Administrator 

**THROUGH:** MJ Geiser, Assistant Superintendent

**FROM:** Tennessee D. Judkins, Director of Iñupiaq Education

**DATE:** May 05, 2023

**SUBJECT: Contracts over \$10,000- Partnow Consulting**

**Memo No: SB23-195**  
(Action Item)

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**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 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:**

Partnow Consulting is owned and operated by Patricia (Pat) Partnow. Pat will support the Iñupiaq Education Department management of the Mapkuq program by: overseeing the assignment and copyrights of all books written for the Mapkuq program; assist in publishing electronic versions of Mapkuq curriculum; assist in the transition of Mapkuq curriculum from Rubicon Atlas to Chalk; identify gaps of curriculum in culture-based units; mentor teachers in the production of Mapkuq curriculum; research and write new guides for materials produced in FY24; provide professional development of the mapkuq program to new teachers and Mapkuq curriculum developers; and teach self-support credit courses to teachers on culturally responsive curriculum and curriculum design. 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:**

July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024.

**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 \$60,450.00.

**Compliance with BP 3311:**

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 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 being a mentor and guide for teachers and staff, curriculum writing, and support professional development needs.

**Grant Funding:**

N/A

**Available Budget:**

100.200.120.000.410

**Proposed Motion:**

“I move that the NSBSD Board of Education approve the above \$10,000 and greater proposals and related contract for Partnow Consulting in the amount not to exceed \$60,450, as described in this memo and related attachments.”

Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded by \_\_\_\_\_

Vote \_\_\_\_\_