

# Agreement for Medicaid Consultation and Billing

September 8, 2015

## SUMMARY:

This item requests approval of an Agreement for Medicaid Consultation and Billing with Maine State Billing (MSB) Medicaid to Schools.

## PREVIOUS BOARD ACTION:

No previous action

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

- The District has utilized Houston Independent School District as its Medicaid billing agent for the years. Revenue as well as support has fluctuated drastically during this time period.
- A task force comprised of the Special Education Leadership Team (SELT), Debbie Monschke and Cathi Robbins received presentations from Maine State Billing (MSB) Medicaid to Schools and Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) Special Education Solutions. The services and projected revenues for the current vendor (Houston ISD), MSB and TASB were considered.

## SIGNIFICANT ISSUES:

This agreement will assist the District in maximizing revenues for billable Medicaid services. The need for targeted, laser focus support and technical assistance from a vendor will assist the District in increasing Medicaid revenue. The need for a consistent and comprehensive method to document and implementation services provided to Special Education students continues to be a concern for the Department of Special Education.

## FISCAL IMPLICATIONS:

- Revenue (Interim payment) projections based upon 2014-15 school year follows:
  - Houston ISD projected \$ 1,082,613
  - MSB projected \$ 1,513,350
  - TASB provided no data
- Interim payments (actual received) utilizing Houston ISD were \$ 589,319 or 54.43% of projection;
- Applying the actual percentage of 54.43% to MSB projections would generate \$ 823,791, a gross increase of \$ 234,471;
- For fiscal year 2016, projected cost (utilizing MSB) will be \$ 151,164;
- The first year differential in total cost of \$ 115,804 would be offset by an increase in reimbursement of \$ 220,403;
- All costs will be borne by revenue generated by the School Health and Related Services (SHARS) Medicaid billing program.

## BENEFIT OF ACTION:

The District will be provided the support to maximize the reimbursement for services billable to Medicaid. Onsite support and training will be provided. A web based consistent approach and tool for documenting services will be implemented. Paper records will be minimized. Ability to retrieve documentation in the event of Federal/State audits.

## OTHER COMMENTS:

The options for Supervisors to generate meaningful reports as they pertain to caseloads and documentation of services by providers is a feature that is not available under the current contracted system. This feature will enhance the department's ability to assure compliance and to afford for more accurate planning.

## SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATION:

The Superintendent is in agreement with the recommendation of the Executive Director of Special Education to change the Medicaid billing agent to MSB.

## STAFF PERSONS RESPONSIBLE:

Debbie G. Roybal, Executive Director of Special Education

## ATTACHMENTS:

- Contract
- Cost Comparison
- Medicaid Program Descriptions

**APPROVAL:**

Signature of Staff Member Proposing Recommendation: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Divisional Assistant Superintendent: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Superintendent: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

DRAFT