




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: Lori Roth, Director Student Services 

DATE: March 28, 2023

SUBJECT: Contracts over \$10,000
More Than Words (Elizabeth (Edna) Nyang)

Memo No: SB23-153
(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 Board policy, contracts, and MOA's \$10,000.00 or greater require Board approval BP3312.

More Thanks Words Speech Services (Elizabeth Nyang) will provide services to student's who qualify for speech/language services as described in the Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA) and Board Policy 6164.4 to ensure a Free and Appropriate Public Education (FAPE). Ms. Nyang is an Alaska licensed speech/language therapist who administers initial speech therapy evaluations, re-evaluations, and file reviews to determine initial or on-going speech language therapy needs. Ms. Nyang is responsible to provide on-site and/or remote services to staff with individualized program development, materials development, assistive technology, training, and direct services as stated in the student's Individual Education Programs (IEP). Ms. Nyang 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:

More Thanks Words Speech Services (Elizabeth Nyang) successfully worked for NSBSD during the 2022-2023 school year. She established relationships with staff, students, and families. To promote continuity of services, Ms. Nyang will continue to provide services to Kali School, Alak School, and Meade River School. Other sites will receive their speech language services from Sara Ecker and Donald Zanoff.

Length of Contract: This MOA will be valid August 15, 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 71 contractor days at \$675.00/day (no change from SY22-23) and may not exceed \$47,925.00. Travel for Ms. Nyang has been estimated up to \$5,000.00 (increase of \$1,500.00 from SY22-23) for up to 2 trips to Kali School, Meade River School, and Alak School from Las Vegas, Nevada. The total MOA for SY23-24 not to exceed \$52,925.00. No NSBSD employee benefits are associated with this MOA.

Grand Funding:

This MOA is funded through the Title VI-B Special Education grant (285. 200.220.000.410) and the NSBSD general fund (100.200.220.000.410).

Compliance with BP 3311:

Ms. Nyang is an Alaska licensed speech/language therapist working for a daily rate of \$675.00 per day. Based on Ms. Nyang’s Alaska experience, this rate is within the acceptable range of rates paid across the state of Alaska (neighboring school district rate is \$675.00-\$725.00/day). In support of the approval of a sole-source MOA, this contractor is successfully completing her NSBSD 2022-2023 speech/language services MOA. For 2023-2024, Ms. Nyang will require no training and a minimal adjustment period to provide speech/language services to our students. Due to Ms. Nyang’s previous MOA and on-site services, she will provide continuity of services, gain familiarity with students and parents quickly, practice pro-active planning/scheduling, be flexible and collaborate, support student progress through the continued on-site and remote speech/language services.

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 FY2023, 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 *More Than Words* (Elizabeth Nyang, speech/language pathologist) in an amount not to exceed 52,925, as described in this memo and attachments.”

Moved by _____ Seconded by _____

Vote _____

Signature: *Ds Vadiveloo*
Ds Vadiveloo (Apr 2, 2023 21:56 AKDT)

Email: david.vadiveloo@nsbsd.org

Signature: *Mary Jane Geiser*
Mary Jane Geiser (Apr 1, 2023 17:18 AKDT)

Email: maryjane.geiser@nsbsd.org

Signature: *Lori Roth*
Lori Roth (Apr 1, 2023 17:37 AKDT)

Email: lori.roth@nsbsd.org