



NORTH SLOPE BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT MEMORANDUM

TO: John Hopson Jr., President
Members of the Board

THROUGH: David Vadiveloo, Superintendent DsV

FROM: Michael Hautala, Director of Student Services MH

DATE: April 18, 2025

SUBJECT: Contract \$50K and Over –
Pangea Speech Therapy (Jessica Hunnemeder)

Memo No. SB25-169
(Action Item)

NSBSD Policy Manual:

Board Policy 3311, Bids: The district shall purchaseservices on a competitive bidding basis when required by law and whenever it appears to be in the best interest of the district to do so. All bids under federal awards must be made in accordance with the standards set forth in 2 CFR 200.320.

Board Policy 3312, Contracts: The Superintendent of designee may enter into contracts and memoranda of agreement (MOA's) on behalf of the District. All contracts and MOA's with a dollar value of \$50,000 or greater must be approved by the School Board.

NSBSD Strategic Plan Summary:

Staff Support & Professional Development

Goal 6: Build and sustain a thriving workforce aligned with the mission of this District

Financial & Operational Stewardship

Goal 7: Standardize high-functioning, efficient, student-focused operations

Issue Summary:

NSBSD staff are required by the Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA) and Board Policy 6164.4. to identify students within the District that require special education and related services. Ms. Hunnemeder is an Alaska-licensed speech pathologist who implements speech evaluations and services. She has been an independent contractor for the Craig City School District and Nome Public Schools and is familiar with school-based speech services. Ms. Hunnemeder has experience with the Embrace Special Education database and will service Barrow High School, Hopson Middle School, Kiita Learning Community, Kali School, Alak School, Meade River School, and Qargi Academy. Ms. Hunnemeder has experience providing remote speech services and training to special education staff. Her experience includes attending pre-evaluation meetings and explaining assessments to parents, attending Infant Learning Program 90-day transition meetings to determine school-based assessments, conducting initial and re-evaluation, writing IEP goals, and attending IEP meetings.

Background:

Based on State and federal law, NSBSD is required to have speech-language pathologists available to screen, evaluate, provide services, and consult with school staff to support students with speech-language needs. Individual and/or small group speech services may be provided in person or remotely based on the Individualized Education Plan. To determine if a speech disability exists, the speech





pathologist has input in the following meetings: pre-assessment meetings to explain assessments being used, Infant Learning Program 90-day transition meetings, initial evaluations, re-evaluations, and IEP meetings.

Length of Contract:

FY26

Funding Source and Contract Amount:

NSBSD will fund this MOA through the general fund and the VI-B Special Education Grant. The Contractor will be paid **\$688 /day for up to 120 days (\$82,560.00)** for professional services (With the addition of BHS and HMS the number of days have increased by 43 days. Ms. Hunnemeder's travel will be reimbursed for up to 2 trips from Honolulu, Hawaii to Utqiagvik, Point Lay, Wainright, and Atkasuk. Travel expenses are not to exceed **\$6,000.00**. Total MOA not to exceed **\$88,560.00**. There are no NSBSD benefits associated with this MOA. Ms. Hunnemeder is currently in talks to establish an MOA with Nome Public Schools. If that MOA is in place, travel expenses from Honolulu, Hawaii to Anchorage will be funded at 50% per school district.

Grant 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. Hunnemeder has Alaska bush experience through her experiences working in Craig City School and Nome Public Schools. Based on Ms. Hunnemeder's experience, this rate is within the acceptable range of rates paid across the state of Alaska. In support of the approval of a sole-source MOA, this contractor will require limited training and a minimal adjustment period to provide speech/language services and training to our staff. For compliance with BP 3311, the contracting of Ms. Hunnemeder meets exemption E. specialized services where the District has established a need for standardization of services; K. proprietary services that are only available from a single source; and, J. contracts to comply with legal requirements in a timely manner.

Recommendation:

The Student Services Department recommends approving this MOA. Services are state and federally mandated under IDEA and are required to meet the educational needs of students with a speech/language disability.

Proposed Motion:

"I move that the NSBSD Board of Education approve the above \$50,000 and greater proposal and related contract for **Pangea Speech Therapy, LLC.**, in the amount of **\$88,560.00** as described in this memo and related attachments."

Moved by _____ Seconded by _____

Vote _____

Signature: DsVadiveloo
DsVadiveloo (Apr 21, 2025 09:10 AKDT)

Email: david.vadiveloo@nsbsd.org

Signature: Michael Hautala
Michael Hautala (Apr 19, 2025 14:40 AKDT)

Email: michael.hautala@nsbsd.org

