



**NORTH SLOPE BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**MEMORANDUM**

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

**THROUGH:** David Vadiveloo, Superintendent *DSVadiveloo*

**FROM:** Michael Hautala, Director of Student Services *MH*  
MH

**DATE:** August 12, 2025

**SUBJECT:** Contract \$50K and Over –  
RBBR, PLLC. /Russell Rabut

**Memo No. SB26-001**  
(Action Item)

**NSBSD Policy Manual:**

Board Policy 3311, Bids: The district shall purchase....services 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 as 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. Mr. Rabut is an Alaska-licensed speech pathologist who implements speech evaluations and services. Mr. Rabut started his career in education as a paraprofessional before becoming a licensed Speech Language Pathologist. He has worked in rural Montana providing services in communities similarly sized as Utqiagvik. Mr. Rabut will provide speech and language services to Ipalook Elementary School. As part of the speech/language program, Mr. Rabut will provide assistive technology support, screening support, and supports two on-site paraprofessionals to implement, and collect data on, speech IEP goals. In collaboration with the Student Services Office, Mr. Rabut will schedule and support the Utqiagvik spring and fall Extended School Year (ESY) program(s).

**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 general fund and the VI-B Special Education Grant. The Contractor will be paid **\$680 for up to 182 days (\$123,760.00)** of professional services (Up to 160 days based on the Board-approved district calendar for FY26 school year up to 11 days spring ESY and 11 days fall ESY in Utqiagvik. Mr. Rabut will be reimbursed for up to 4 tickets from Missoula, Montana to Utqiagvik, Alaska. Travel expenses are not to exceed **\$5,000.00**. Total MOA not to exceed **\$128,760.00**. There are no NSBSD benefits associated with this MOA.

**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.**

This contract is exempt under C Professional Services, Professional Educational Services, and K Sole Source Services. Mr. Rabut will be required to successfully fulfill his MOA requirements. Based on Mr. Rabut's previous 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 minimal training and no adjustment period to provide speech/language services to our students. The approval of Mr. Rabut's a contractor will provide continuity of services, continuity of practice, pro-active planning, continued implementation of remote speech/language services, and ongoing compliance with NSBSD special education processes.

**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 **RBBR, PLLC. (Russell Rabut)**, in the amount of **\$128,760.00** as described in this memo and related attachments."

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

Vote \_\_\_\_\_

