



**NORTH SLOPE BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
MEMORANDUM**

TO: Robyn Burke, President
Members of the Board

THROUGH: David Vadiveloo, Superintendent DSV

THROUGH: Tracy Mulvenon, Assistant Superintendent TM

FROM: Tenna Pili, Director of Iñupiaq Education TJ

DATE: June 11, 2024

**SUBJECT: Contracts over \$50,000 -
Nannut Qaqisauraqat, LLC**

**Memo No: SB24-173
(Action Item)**

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 3311, Bids: All purchases in the amount of \$20,000 or more shall be based, when possible, on three competitive bids. The Superintendent or designee shall establish procedures to ensure that formal advertised bids are solicited for purchases over \$50,000.

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:

The Iñupiaq Education Department is requesting a final contract be approved with Nannut Qaqisauraqat, LLC for the close-out of development and technical work on the new IVALU App and website. This final phase contract will result in 100% deliverables and a fully functioning App and website no later than August 15, 2024, in time for the commencement of the new school year. This new and final contract is above and beyond previously approved contracts approved by the Board and is required due to the complexity of the overhaul and the District intent to have control over the program and software moving forward. All work delivered will be subject to 12 months of testing before any further request for further work is proposed.

Background:

Viva was started in 2007 and rolled out for student and teacher use in January 2009. The computer programming team we have been working with at Nannut Qaqisauraqat, LLC collectively have over 50 years of experience in computer programming and technical skills and training. This continued





work would allow us to ensure that current components in the old VIVA app will be usable in IVALU.

The scale of the overhaul of the VIVA website and rebrand to IVALU has been greater than anticipated with a complete rebuild required to rewrite the old software and overhaul old obsolete computer language. This work will give the District the ability to troubleshoot and maintain the software internally.

The contractor has also been working on development of a mobile and desktop app which represents new, and more extensive work, and will ensure the District is less reliant on internet in the villages. Moving away from buffering/reloading the system every time the student logs in will improve user experience and accessibility. The rewrite of the online website will also allow access to parents, families, and educational partners.

We have been doing some testing of the app in some sites on the district laptops and ipad's and have received a very positive reaction to the new app, and students have been enjoying the new IVALU app very much. The way the the app is set up on the student view, directly aligns with their personal language goals so when they log in to the app, their current goals show at the top which tells them what units or skillsets they need to work on at that time in sequence with their language progression.

This work directly aligns with our department, district, and student goals around language revitalization and the Board's adopted mission to graduate bilingual students. For us to have a way to showcase student progression and mastery in the Iñupiaq language, have a tool to assess students, and use that student data to drive language instruction, we must continue this work. It aligns with our language scope & sequence, the curriculum we have built to support our teachers and their instruction in the classroom, the professional development and training needed to support our language teachers, and continued support to enhance the program, the IVALU app is a key component here.

Length of Contract:

The length of the contract would be July 1, 2024, through August 15, 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 \$83,296.25.

Available Budget:

100.200.120.000.410

Compliance with BP 3311:

The administration requests that the requirements of BP3311 be waived in this instance.

The upgrading and modification of computer programming is a very specialized skill. The Iñupiaq Education Department initially spent 6 months searching for a computer programming company. During the search for a suitable company to perform the first phases of upgrades, updates and overhauling of VIVA, the department looked at several different companies, including the original developer, used a search program to solicit companies who offer computer programming, and other companies overseas. Nannut Qaqisaurajat, LLC. demonstrated at that time they had the expertise and necessary understanding of our requirements.





Proposed Motion:

“I move that the NSBSD Board of Education approve the above \$50,000 and greater proposal and related contract with Nannut Qaqisaurajat, LLC, as described in this memo and related attachments.”

Moved by _____ Seconded by _____

Advisory Vote _____ Vote _____

Signature: *DsVadiveloo*
DsVadiveloo (Jun 12, 2024 20:22 AKDT)

Email: david.vadiveloo@nsbsd.org

Signature: *Tracy Mulvenon*
Tracy Mulvenon (Jun 12, 2024 20:15 AKDT)

Email: tracy.mulvenon@nsbsd.org

Signature: *Tennessee Judkins*
Tennessee Judkins (Jun 14, 2024 14:28 AKDT)

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