OFFICE OF CHIEF ACCOUNTABLITY OFFICER
Summary of State Board of Education Agenda Items
February 17, 2022

OFFICE OF TEACHING AND LEADING
OFFICE OF TECHNOLOGY AND STRATEGIC SERVICES

05.B. Action: Contract with R & A Solutions (dba) RANDA Solutions for The Mississippi Educator Career Continuum Archive (MECCA) System [Goal 4 – MBE Strategic Plan]

Awarded Vendor:　　R & A Solutions, Inc. (dba)
　　　　　　　　　　　RANDA Solutions
　　　　　　　　　　　Franklin, TN

Scope of Project: The Mississippi Educator Career Continuum Archive (MECCA) system will be an MDE cloud based, all-in-one, single sign-on educator workforce information system that serves as a hub to capture the lifecycle of a Mississippi educator from recruitment to retirement.

The MECCA system will have four primary portals to serve the many stakeholders throughout the educator journey. The four portals are as follows: Portal One - Educator Preparation, Licensure, and/Misconduct Evaluations; Portal Two - Professional Growth System (PGS) Observation and Development, Portal Three - Educator Talent; and Portal Four - Accreditation.

The contractor will provide the following: Successfully develop and integrate MECCA, the development and implementation of four portals, the overall design and integration strategy, and the project management approach. Furthermore, the contractor shall provide the MDE with a derivative license to all documents, programs, databases, and all other materials, electronic or otherwise, created by contractor in connection with the project, completed, except for the contractor's internal administrative and quality assurance files and internal project correspondence. The MDE intends for the entire MECCA ecosystem to be hosted within its Azure cloud environment.

Each of the portals will be tailored to their end-users, the end-users' tasks to be accomplished within the portal, the information and data to be shared or generated, and the desired outcome. Common features across all portals will be the following:

- Survey various end-users about numerous topics at different times, allowing program offices (business side) to create and release surveys, as well as manage end-users' responses without need for developer support.
- Allow program offices (business side) to manage rules and policies within the ecosystem without need for developer support (i.e., a content management system with workflows and approvals).
- Allow various end-users to securely upload all manner of files, including multi-media files and files containing sensitive information (i.e., SSN, confidential/personal information).
- Allow for the creation of workflows and dashboards, allowing end-users to see where various tasks are in the workflow, highlight new/next steps and send notifications and alerts that help increase process efficiency.
- Automate as many manual steps as possible in the current processes in order to reduce processing and response times.
- Allow managers to measure Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) related to processing and response times, as well as manage volume and assignment of staff.
- Across all portals, the Office of Teaching and Leading requires four quarterly reports, four annual reports, and up to 25 additional pre-defined reports.
- Across all portals, the user groups include 40 MDE staff, 12K local education agency and school staff, 40K educators, and 30 Educator Preparation Program staff.

Personnel associated with this contract are not former Department employees or related to any Department employees.

Scope of Contract:

- Term of Contract: February 18, 2022 – September 30, 2024

- Amount to be Awarded: $5,108,736

- Method of Award: Request for Quotations (COVID 19 - ESSER ARP)

Funding Source: ARP ESSER

Summary of Selection Process:
A competitive selection process was utilized to award contracts.

Scoring Criteria:

A. Vendor Qualifications
B. Project Management and Oversight

C. Design and Integrations
D. Portal #1 (Educator Preparation, Licensure and Misconduct)
E. Portal #2 (Professional Growth System (PGS)
F. Portal #3 (Educator Talent
G. Portal #4 (Accreditation)
H. Cost

This item references Goal 4 of the *Mississippi Board of Education 2018-2022 Strategic Plan.*

Recommendation: Approval

Back-up material: None