

OFFICE OF CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICER
Summary of State Board of Education Agenda Items
December 17, 2015

OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

07. Approval to modify contract with Cambium Education, Inc., dba Sopris Learning, for Fiscal Year 2016 for the operation of the Mississippi K-3 Literacy Professional Development Training System [Goals 1 and 4 – MDE Strategic Plan]

Awarded Vendor: Cambium Education, Inc., dba Sopris Learning
Dallas, TX

Scope of Project: The purpose of this modification is to increase funds to allow additional teachers to participate in the Language Essentials for Teachers of Reading and Spelling (LETRS) training. The contractor is responsible for the total operation and management of the K-3 Literacy Training to build content and pedagogical knowledge of the essential elements of literacy and provide strategies for supporting effective reading instruction.

The original contract for Cambium Education, Inc., dba Sopris Learning, has been renewed an additional two years. This contract modification includes an increase for year three (second additional year) to pay for service to allow more teachers to receive the training.

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

Basis for Contract: Section 37-177-19 of the Mississippi Code authorizes the Mississippi Department of Education to provide technical assistance as may be needed to aid local school districts in administering the provisions of the legislation.

Scope of Contract:

- Term of Current Contract: November 20, 2013 – June 30, 2016
- Cost of Current Contract: Amount not to exceed \$9,500,000
- Modification Increase: \$520,000
- Total Cost of Modified Contract: Amount not to exceed \$10,020,000
- Method of Award: Request for Proposals

Funding Source: State and Federal funds

This item references Goals 1 and 4 of the *Mississippi Board of Education 2016-2020 Strategic Plan*.

Recommendation: Approval

Back-up material attached

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
 Office of Professional Development
 Mississippi K-3 Literacy Professional Development Training System
 Cambium Education, Inc.

Training Overview

Mississippi teachers and administrators responsible for Kindergarten – 3rd grade students, as well as higher education faculty and pre-service teachers can participate in the Language Essentials for Teachers of Reading and Spelling (LETRS) training modules focused on improving literacy instruction. The training is conducted in three phases with a blend of online and face-to-face sessions. The composition of each phase is in the chart below.

Phase I Online and Face-to-Face	Phase II Online and Face-to-Face	Phase III Online
Module 1: The challenge to read	Module 4: Vocabulary	15 follow-up sessions
Module 2: Phonetics, phonology, and phoneme awareness	Module 5: Fluency	Review of modules
Module 3: Spelling	Module 6: Comprehension	Teaching Strategies Model lessons
Module 7: Teaching phonics, word study, and alphabetic principle	Module 9: Teaching beginning reading and spelling	Application Activities

All K-3 teachers from the literacy target schools and MDE literacy staff are required to participate in this training. Administrators at the district and school levels may attend the Principal Primer training. The chart below provides the number of participants trained during each school year and the projected number of participants to be trained during January-June 2016.

Category	Actual 2013-2014 Participants	Actual 2014-2015 Participants	July – Dec 2015 Participants	Total Trained to Date	Jan – June 2016 Projected Participants
LETRS Phase I	3,889	3,460	3,264	10,613	300
LETRS Phase II	39	4,950	1,546	6,535	2,700
LETRS Phase III	0	4,989	1,546	6,535	2,700
Principal Primer	590	300	300	1,190	0

Contract History

Year	FY	Contract Cost
1	FY14	\$3,200,000
2	FY15	\$3,700,000
3	FY16	\$2,600,000
3	FY16	\$ 520,000
Total		\$10,020,000

The awarded vendor is in compliance with all specifications of the contract.

Miss. Code Ann. § 37-177-19

MISSISSIPPI CODE of 1972

*** Current through the 2014 Regular Session and 1st and 2nd Extraordinary Sessions ***

TITLE 37. EDUCATION
CHAPTER 177. LITERACY-BASED PROMOTION ACT

Miss. Code Ann. § 37-177-19 (2014)

§ 37-177-19. Implementation of chapter

(1) The State Board of Education shall adopt such policies, rules and regulations as may be necessary for the implementation of this chapter.

(2) The State Department of Education shall provide such technical assistance and training of teachers/administrators as may be needed to aid local school districts in administering the provisions of this chapter.

(3) Each local school district must include provisions required by this chapter as an addition to the district's published handbook of policy for employees and students beginning in school year 2013-2014.

HISTORY: SOURCES: Laws, 2013, ch. 495, § 10, eff from and after passage (approved April 17, 2013.)