

OFFICE OF CHIEF ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICER
Summary of State Board of Education Agenda Items
July 17, 2025

OFFICE OF SAFE AND ORDERLY SCHOOLS

- 02.A. Action: Contract with nSide, Inc. for a continued service subscription of a web-based solution for public school districts for the consistent development and implementation for all components of the Mississippi Department Crisis Management Plan and Miss. Code Ann. § 37-3-83 [Goals 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 – MBE Strategic Plan]

Background: nSide Inc. agrees to continue to provide all school districts with continued access to the nSide School Safety platform included but not limited to: emergency operation planning, digital mapping and floor plans, emergency notification response tools, and training with support services. The services provided shall comply with all applicable federal and state laws, regulations, and policies governing school safety.

Scope of Contract:

Term of Contract:	March 4, 2025 – March 3, 2026
Amount to be Awarded:	\$1,400,000
Method of Award:	Emergency Contract

Funding Source: State funds appropriated in House Bill 48 of the 2025 Legislative Session

This item references Goals 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 of the *Mississippi Board of Education Strategic Plan*.

Recommendation: Approval

Back-up material attached

By: Representative Read

To: Appropriations A

HOUSE BILL NO. 48

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 43 OF CHAPTER 95, LAWS OF 2024, TO
2 REVISE THE FISCAL YEAR 2025 APPROPRIATION TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT
3 OF EDUCATION TO PROVIDE THAT A CERTAIN SUM MAY BE USED FOR THE
4 CONTINUATION OF THE CURRENT SCHOOL SAFETY PLATFORM; AND FOR
5 RELATED PURPOSES.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

7 **SECTION 1.** Section 43 of Chapter 95, Laws of 2024, is
8 amended as follows:

9 Section 43. Of the funds appropriated in Section 1(a) of
10 this act, One Million Four Hundred Thousand Dollars
11 (\$1,400,000.00) is provided for the continuation of * * * the
12 current school * * * safety platform.

13 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
14 and after its passage.





Mississippi's Current Subscription

nSide School Safety Platform:

nSide is currently available to all education faculty and staff in the State of Mississippi. In addition, any sworn officer in the State can have access to nSide™ with appropriate authorization. The nSide™ School Safety Platform contains the Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) for public schools in Mississippi, along with detailed campus maps and building floor plans, illustrating over one hundred categories of map data overlaid on high-resolution aerial photography and street base maps.

Annual Subscription Includes:

1. **nSide School Safety Platform™:** This is the base software platform, provided as a web application from the cloud. It facilitates the creation and management of individual school emergency operations plans.
2. **nSide|Views™:** This extended platform module allows the schools to have 360° photospheres linked to create navigable virtual walkthroughs. This secure and encrypted data gives first responders critical situational awareness of the schools.
3. **nSide|Live™:** This extended platform module allows schools to view live views of their digital surveillance cameras. This subscription is for the Rhombus cameras provided as part of the federally funded 3-year project by MDE 2022-2025. *(Note: to integrate additional cameras will require a nominal fee.)*
4. **nSide|Tips™:** nSide|Tips is a statewide tip submission system for public K-12 schools. Notifications are sent to district and school administrators.
5. **nSide|Lockdown™:** nSide |Lockdown™ is a Rapid Emergency Notification tool, sometimes called a panic button, that allows teachers and staff to quickly respond to various emergencies. It is part of the nSide™ platform, consolidating information, technology, and personnel in one place. The Lockdown app enables faculty and staff to alert administrators and emergency response partners when they become aware of an issue. The app allows instant notifications to be sent to staff and emergency responders, with different emergency alerts available.
nSide|Academy™: Our support for Mississippi extends to webinars and nSide|Academy™ (self-paced online courses). The types of training we provide include technical training for the operations of the system, but also school safety training for the school's staff and personnel. This approach helps schools create high-quality emergency operations plans that they understand and know how to execute.
6. **nSide|Community™:** This extended platform module provides users a secure location to share questions and answers, search and review knowledge base articles and tutorials, and share ideas or problems. This provides a large "community" of users to help one another through their shared experience and is moderated by nSide personnel.
7. **Data Management:** Data management is a significant part of our services to schools throughout Mississippi. It comes in various modes that range from

updating floor plans for additions or construction on a school, adding floor plans for new schools, or assisting with developing and inputting EOPs. *(Note: Updates do not include site visits or 360-degree photo updates.)*

8. **Support:** Our daily live support efforts to educators, administrators, safety resource officers, and other first responders or emergency management personnel can be seen in the number of "conversations" we have with those individuals. What might traditionally be called "Trouble Tickets" or "Support Tickets" we call conversations. We want all our users to feel comfortable talking to us about their needs.

AGREEMENT BETWEEN MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND NSIDE, INC.

This Agreement ("Agreement") is made and entered into as of [Effective Date], by and between the Mississippi Department of Education (hereinafter referred to as "MDE" or "Department"), with its principal place at 359 N. West St., Jackson, Mississippi 39201, and nSide, Inc., a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Alabama, having its principal place of business at 4031 Parkway Drive, Ste B, Florence, AL 35630 (hereinafter referred to as "nSide" or "Contractor").

WHEREAS:

1. The Mississippi State Legislature has appropriated funds to continue the subscription and implementation of the nSide School Safety Platform;
2. MDE has previously contracted with nSide to provide a Commercial Off-the-Shelf (COTS) cloud-based solution for school safety under an agreement funded through ESSER, and intends to continue utilizing these services;
3. The Mississippi Code Section 27-104-351 requires a written agreement between MDE and any pass-through recipient entity to govern the use of appropriated funds.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants and agreements contained herein, the parties agree as follows:

ARTICLE 1 - TERM OF AGREEMENT

1.1 This Agreement shall commence on [Effective Date] and shall remain in effect until [End Date] unless terminated earlier as provided herein.

1.2 This Agreement may be extended by written mutual agreement of the parties.

ARTICLE 2 - SCOPE OF SERVICES

2.1 nSide agrees to provide MDE and participating Mississippi school districts with continued access to the nSide School Safety Platform, including but not limited to:

- Emergency operations planning,
- Digital mapping and floor plans,
- Mass emergency notifications,
- Training and support services.

2.2 The services provided shall comply with all applicable federal and state laws, regulations, and policies governing school safety.

ARTICLE 3 - COMPENSATION AND PAYMENT

3.1 The total funding amount for this Agreement shall not exceed \$1,400,000 as appropriated by HB 48 of the 2025 Mississippi Legislative Extraordinary Session.

3.2 Payments shall be made in accordance with the Legislative Pass-Through Recipient Entity Agreement, with disbursements occurring within 60 days of the beginning of the subscription cycle:

- Payment: [Amount] by [Date]

ARTICLE 4 - REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

4.1 nSide shall submit expenditure reports to MDE on the following schedule:

- Q1: January–March (Due April 10)
- Q2: April–June (Due July 10)
- Q3: July–September (Due October 10)
- Q4: October–December (Due January 10)

4.2 Reports shall be submitted using the Legislative Pass-Through Recipient Expenditure Report Form.

4.3 nSide shall provide MDE with any additional documentation required for compliance with Mississippi's legislative transparency and reporting policies.

ARTICLE 5 - COMPLIANCE AND OVERSIGHT

5.1 nSide shall ensure all services comply with Mississippi's state security and education standards.

5.2 MDE shall have the right to audit nSide's expenditures and program activities related to this Agreement.

5.3 nSide shall comply with all applicable laws, including Mississippi's data privacy and security policies.

ARTICLE 6 - TERMINATION

6.1 MDE may terminate this Agreement for convenience with thirty (30) days' written notice to nSide.

6.2 If nSide fails to comply with the terms of this Agreement, MDE may terminate the Agreement for cause with written notice and an opportunity for nSide to cure within fifteen (30) business days.

6.3 In the event of termination, nSide shall return any unused funds to MDE within thirty (30) days.

ARTICLE 7 - MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

7.1 Governing Law: This Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Mississippi.

7.2 Assignment: This Agreement may not be assigned by nSide without prior written consent from MDE.

7.3 Amendments: Any modification of this Agreement must be in writing and signed by both parties.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Agreement as of the date first written above.

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

By: _____

Name: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

NSIDE, INC.

By: _____

Name: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

DRAFT