

OFFICE OF CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER
Summary of State Board of Education Agenda Items
January 15, 2026

OFFICE OF TECHNOLOGY AND STRATEGIC SERVICES

04.A. Action: Contract with Guidedsoft Inc., d/b/a Knowledge Services under the terms of the Master Consulting Services Agreement to provide for the acquisition of Information Technology Professionals [Goal 5 – MBE Strategic Plan]

Awarded Vendor: Guidedsoft, Inc., d/b/a Knowledge Services
Indianapolis, Indiana

Scope of Project: The Mississippi Department of Information Technology Services (ITS) and Guidedsoft, d/b/a Knowledge Services entered into a contract, for a Managed Services Provider (MSP) Program that would provide for the acquisition of Information Technology Consulting Services.

Under the MSP Program, The Office of Technology and Strategic Services (OTSS) seek board approval for a new 5-year contract with Guidedsoft for IT Professional positions. The new contract will allow the MDE to continue IT Professionals services for the maintenance and support of MSIS to include enhancements, bug-fixes, and addressing new requirements. The current contract will end on February 28, 2026, and work will commence under new Statement of Works (SOWs) with a new execution date of March 1, 2026, for the following positions. The total sum compensation to be paid under this contract shall not exceed the specified sum of \$22,000,000.

- Program / Project Managers & Scrum Masters
- Business Analysts & Process Analysts
- Enterprise & Solution Architects
- Cloud / Infrastructure Architects (Azure)
- Data Architects
- Cloud / Infrastructure Engineers (Azure)
- Data Engineers and Azure Synapse/Fabric Engineers
- Database Administrators
- Application & Integration Developers (.NET, APIs, Power Platform)
- BI / Analytics Developers (Power BI)
- DevOps / CI-CD Engineers (Azure DevOps)
- Security Engineers & Security Analysts
- Identity & Access Management Engineers
- Quality Assurance & Test Automation Engineers
- Application Operations & Site Reliability Engineers
- M365 / SharePoint Administrators

- Technical Writer / Documentation
- Graphic Designer

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

Scope of Contract:

- Term of Contract: March 01, 2026 – February 28, 2031
- Total amount to be awarded: \$22,000,000
- Method of Award: ITS Master Consulting Services Agreement

Funding Source: State, Federal and EEF Funds

This item references Goal 5 of the *Mississippi Board of Education Strategic Plan*.

Recommendation: Approval

Back-up material: None