

Action Item - 23

Board of Education Meeting Date: 1/30/2025

Title: Contract Extension with Various Vendors - Services to Schools in High-Crime Communities as Part of the Project Prevent Grant from US Department of Education (\$110,000)

Action Under Consideration

The Administration recommends that the Board of Education authorize and ratify the execution and performance of a contract extension by The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, subject to funding, as follows:

With: Lakeside Youth Services
The Trustees of the University of Pennsylvania

Purpose: Training and support for school staff on trauma-informed practices (Lakeside Youth Services (Lakeside)); designing and executing implementation research to inform high-quality services to schools (University of Pennsylvania (UPenn))

Original Start Date: 5/1/2020

Current End Date: 6/30/2024

Amended End Date: 6/30/2025

Currently Authorized Compensation: \$377,000

Additional Compensation: \$110,000 (\$50,000 for Lakeside; \$60,000 for UPenn)

Total New Compensation: \$487,000

Location(s):

Former Learning Network 11 Schools

- Learning Network 1 (Morton, Thomas G. School)
- Learning Network 5 (Gideon, Edward School; Kelley, William D. School; Wright, Richard R. School; Peirce, Thomas M. School; Dick, William School; Blaine, James G. School)
- Learning Network 7 (Cayuga School)
- Learning Network 8 (Kenderton Elementary School; McClure, Alexander K. School; Taylor, Bayard School; Duckrey, Tanner G. School; Bethune, Mary M. School)
- Learning Network 9 (Cramp, William School; Elkin, Lewis School)

Other schools may be identified and approved by the Office of School Climate and Culture (OSCC) based on the needs of the schools and surrounding communities

Description:

Why is this contract needed?

The School District of Philadelphia (District) received a five-year Project Prevent grant for \$2.5 million from the US Department of Education in 2019. This grant was awarded for the purpose of improving support systems for students and families in schools in high-crime communities, and building District capacity to provide similar services to other schools. Schools in former Learning Network 11 were selected based on crime data in the surrounding communities. The District was awarded a one year extension to complete the work laid out in the grant project by 6/30/2025. These contract extensions are needed to complete the work of the project which was delayed due to the COVID pandemic.

How will the success of this contract be measured?

Each vendor has clear deliverables that are stipulated as part of Project Prevent. Lakeside will deliver training to former LN 11 schools using its Neurologic Approach to Trauma Awareness Training. The University of Pennsylvania will support the District in developing and implementing a system for monitoring and documenting implementation of evidence-based interventions for purposes for continuous improvement.

If this is the continuation of a contract, how has success been measured in the past, and what specific information do we have to show that it was successful?

Both vendors have existing contracts as part of the Project Prevent grant. The University of Pennsylvania has been involved with the work since the grant was awarded and has supported our staff in developing new tools and systems for understanding and better supporting schools in implementing best practices. The University of Pennsylvania helped the Office of School Climate & Culture develop its new cloud-based tool for monitoring implementation and identifying barriers to implementation. They also attend meetings for the Project Prevent project, collect data, and provide formative feedback to the project team. Lakeside needs additional time to provide the planned services to the schools due to 1) COVID, and 2) difficulty in finding time in schools' schedules to deliver this training. They were able to begin the work in some of the schools in the 2022/2023 school year, and services will be able to be provided more consistently in the coming school year.

When applicable, is this an evidence-based strategy? If so, what evidence exists to support this approach?

As a stipulation of the Project Prevent funding, all strategies supported through this project are evidence-based. An extensive literature review detailing the evidence base of all project activities was included with the grant application.

Related resolution(s)/approval(s):

December 12, 2019; No. 3

March 26, 2020; No. 30
May, 26, 2022; No. 32
May 25, 2023; No. 54

Funding Source(s): FY24-25: The School District of Philadelphia "Project Prevent"
Grant Program

Office Originating Request:
Student Support Services