

## **Action Item - 26**

**Title:** Contract w/ Various Vendors - Youth Mentoring and Engagement (\$3,000,000)

**Board of Education Meeting Date:** 2/27/2025

### **Action Under Consideration:**

The Administration recommends that the Board of Education authorize The School District of Philadelphia, through the Superintendent or his designee, to execute and perform a contract, subject to funding, as follows:

#### **With:**

Edu Prime LLC  
Fadeyibi Consulting Group  
Father's Day Rally Committee  
The Lincoln Center for Family

#### **Purpose:**

For a comprehensive Youth Engagement Initiative focused on mentorship and restorative practices for high-risk students

**Start date:** 3/1/2025

**End Date:** 6/30/2026

#### **Compensation not to exceed:**

\$3,000,000

#### **Separate Compensation by Contractor:**

All entities will be paid out of the aggregate amount not to exceed \$3,000,000

#### **Location:**

All Administrative Offices; All Schools

#### **Renewal Option:**

Number of options: 3; Duration of each option: 1 year

#### **Maximum Compensation authorized per option period:**

All vendors will be paid out of an aggregate amount not to exceed 110% of the prior year amount per option period

#### **Description:**

##### **Why is this contract needed?**

The objective of these contracts is to establish a professional development model for a mentorship and restorative proactive program, a mentor recruitment and training

model for community partnerships, and identify research and evidence-based practices regarding targeting high-risk students for dropout prevention and re-engagement. The overarching aim is to increase attendance and graduation rates while reducing dropout rates by the specified targets.

**How will the success of this contract be measured?**

Success of these contracts will be measured through various metrics. Aside from qualitative data that will be captured through student surveys, we hope to see improvement in the following data where programming and resources are implemented; Student attendance, Dropout Rates, Graduation Rate, Percent of students identified as “On-track”.

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

Mentoring is often one component of a program that involves other elements, such as tutoring or life skills training and coaching. The supportive, healthy relationships formed between mentors and mentees are both immediate and long-term and contribute to a host of benefits for mentors and mentees.

Benefits for youth:

- Increased high school graduation rates
- Lower high school dropout rates
- Healthier relationships and lifestyle choices
- Better attitude about school
- Higher college enrollment rates and higher educational aspirations
- Enhanced self-esteem and self-confidence
- Improved behavior, both at home and at school
- Stronger relationships with parents, teachers, and peers
- Improved interpersonal skills
- Decreased likelihood of initiating drug and alcohol use (MENTOR, 2009; Cavell, DuBois, Karcher, Keller, & Rhodes, 2009)

**When applicable, was a larger community of District community members and/or stakeholders involved in this selection process? If so, what groups and how?**

Selection is being done through a competitive procurement process where a committee of District stakeholders from several offices will make the selection based on the quality of the proposals. The Offices of Academics, Finance, School Performance, Student Support and Post-Secondary Readiness worked to select the vendors. The vendors listed will be engaged as needed to provide services if and when the District sees fit.

**Which Goal and/or Guardrail does this Action Item support?**

**Has this investment been discussed during a progress monitoring session? Which session?**

This work is in direct alignment with Guardrails 1-3 that support safe and welcoming environments and the development of students beyond core curriculum. It also

supports the engagement of families and community partners to take part in the development and success of our students.

**Does this Action Item support a specific strategy/intervention identified in the Strategic Plan?**

This action item supports the following actions from the Strategic Plan.

- 2. 9: Relaunch Parent University to provide resources and support to families and community.
- 2.10: Establish a parent ambassador role (with paid stipends).
- 3.13: Expand 9th Grade On-Track (Success Networks) to reduce dropouts and increase four-year graduation rates.

**Related resolution(s)/action item(s)**

N/A

**Funding Source(s)**

FY24-25 Operating and Categorical

FY25-26 Operating and Categorical

**Office Originating Request:**

Academic Services