

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF HARFORD COUNTY

INFORMATIONAL REPORT

DECISION ON A CONTRACT AWARD FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION CONTRACTUAL SERVICES PROVIDER

FEBRUARY 13, 2023

Background Information:

On behalf of the Department of Special Education, the Procurement Department is requesting approval to continue utilizing Pediatric Development Services, located at 12520 Prosperity Drive, #210, Silver Spring, MD, 20904, for contractual candidates to fill current vacancies.

The total annual expenditure with Pediatric Development Services is expected to be in excess of \$100,000. For any single procurement exceeding \$100,000, board approval will be requested.

Discussion:

Federal and State laws and regulations require school systems provide various types of services for Students with Disabilities (SWD) and the Infant and Toddlers (IFT) program to support the educational needs as set forth in the student's Individualized Education Plan (IEP) or Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP). These services include, but are not limited to, physical, occupational, speech/language therapy, and behavior analysis services.

Currently, at the state and local levels, a shortage of Speech and Language Pathologists, Occupational Therapists, Physical Therapists, and Registered Behavior Technicians exists.

Due to the shortage and the inability to hire through the current contracted suppliers, the services provided by this vendor are considered a single source.

These services will be paid utilizing the FY23 American Rescue Plan (ARP) Special Education Passthrough funds.

Superintendent's Recommendation:

The Superintendent of Schools recommends that the Board of Education approve the use of services through Pediatric Development Services.