

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### Recommendation to Approve Agreement FY21-047 – Montessori Education Certification for Teachers

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#### Introduction

##### Responsible: Procurement & Warehousing Services (PWS)

This request is to approve the recommendation to award the Agreement FY21-047 – Montessori Education Certification for Teachers to Summit Montessori Teacher Training Institute, LLC (SM). The School Board of Broward County, Florida (SBBC), is willing to continue its partnership with SM for teachers to be trained and credentialed in Montessori Education with the American Montessori Society. The term of this Agreement will be from July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2023.

FY21-047 will replace bid ID FY20-076, which was approved in the May 21, 2019 School Board meeting for one (1) year from July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020, with a spending authority of \$60,600.

Due to the COVID-19, the spending authority being requested is \$24,400, and covers the estimated amount projected for the first twelve (12) months; therefore, additional spending authority to cover the remaining term of the Agreement will be requested in a future date.

#### Goods/Services Description

##### Responsible: Innovative Programs

Summit Montessori Teacher Training Institute prepares teachers for working in age three through six (3-6) classrooms (Early Childhood), as well as the age of six through nine (6-9) classrooms (Elementary I). Upon completion of all program requirements, the teacher will receive an American Montessori Society certificate. Summit Montessori offers practical application skills in Montessori education. The program includes hands-on experiences with credentialed trainers and provides opportunities for the teachers to interact with the Montessori materials through classroom experiences.

The Summit agreement is for three (3) identified schools, including Beachside Montessori Village, King, Dr. Martin Luther, Montessori Academy, and Virginia Shuman Young Montessori Schools.

Beginning in the 2017-2018 school year, BTU Agreement language was amended to include a commitment clause for teachers assigned to teach Montessori core courses at a Montessori school (Article 4 F- Special Teaching Assignments). As of School Year 2018, four (4) Broward County Public Schools teachers have enrolled in the Summit Montessori credentialing courses. Of the group, one (1) has completed the program, and one (1) is on schedule to graduate in June 2020. Based on the timeframe for completion, the remaining two (2) teachers have until May 2021 to complete. One hundred (100) percent of these teachers are still employed at their current locations. Additionally, the tables below provide information relative to school-specific Montessori data.

To provide schools guidance around the spending of Montessori allocations for teacher training, information has been added to the 2020-2021 Magnet Budget Guidelines to provide schools guidance on the expectation that monies assigned for teacher training are to be used for that purpose only.

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The benefits for Broward teachers to attend Summit Montessori training are that the classes are held on Summit-Questa Montessori campus in Davie, Florida, during the summer and on weekends throughout the year. The program essentially consists of a full-time summer component that spans June and July of each year, followed by a series of eight through nine (8-9) weekend sessions held once monthly. This is further supplemented by ongoing support services for enrolled teachers. Summit is an American Montessori

Society Affiliate and its courses are accredited by the Montessori Accreditation Council for Teacher Education. The American Montessori Society allows adult learners three (3) years to complete the course work and practicum phase of the training. The Summit schedule, therefore, offers teachers one to three (1-3) years to complete the entire program. Under the terms of this Agreement, teachers may only enroll during the School Year 2020-2021 to allow for completion of the program by School Year 2022-2023. Teachers who enroll during the June 2020 session will, therefore, have until June 2023 to complete. A new agreement will be established in June 2021 for new enrollments.

Table 1 below represents teacher survey data collected from schools as of March 2020.

**Table 1: School Year 2020 School Montessori Survey Data**

School Name	# of Teachers: Whole School	# of Teachers: Montessori Program	# of Teachers Fully Montessori Credentialed	# of Teachers Currently in Training	# of Teachers that have not begun training
Beachside Montessori Village	55	39	15	21	3
Virginia Shuman Young Montessori	44	37	28	8	1
Bair Middle	42	12	2	3	7
King, Dr. Martin Luther, Montessori Academy	30	22	5	5	12
Sunrise Middle	66	28	1	1	27
				<b>38</b>	<b>50</b>

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**Procurement Method**  
**Responsible: PWS**

Pursuant to Purchasing Policy 3320 and the Department of Education, Rule 6A-1.012, 11(a), Florida Administrative Code as authorized by Section 1010.04(4)(a), Florida Statutes, and Purchasing Policy 3320, Section II, G, the requirement for requesting competitive solicitation for commodities or contractual services from three (3) or more sources is hereby waived for the purchase of professional services.

**Financial Impact**  
**Responsible: PWS and Innovative Programs**

Due to the COVID-19, the spending authority being requested is \$24,400, and covers the estimated amount projected for the first twelve (12) months; therefore, additional spending authority to cover the remaining term of the Agreement will be requested in a future date.

In determining the spending authority for this Agreement, consideration for current conditions, the needs, as indicated by the schools, as well as historical spending data as referenced in table 2 below, was used. With consideration for these factors, as such, the term of the agreement was revised to one (1) year with consideration for the factors previously referenced.

**Table 2 below represents estimated costs as submitted by the Montessori schools relative to their Summit Montessori training plan for School Year 2021**

	<b>King, Dr. Martin Luther</b>	<b>Virginia Shuman Young</b>	<b>Beachside</b>
<b>PROPOSED TOTAL # of Teacher Impacted</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>
Anticipated summit cost @ a maximum of \$6100/teacher	\$6,100	\$12,200	\$6,100
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$24,400</b>		

This Agreement was originally brought to the April 21, 2020, Regular School Board Meeting (RSBM). With instructions from the School Board, the item was deferred to the May 19, 2020 RSBM with guidance for surveying school staff as a means for determining the requested spending authority. As such, and in light of the current conditions, data collected was used to determine the requested Montessori spending authority, and the term of the agreement revised to one (1) year. Table 3 below represents survey data to that effect for the revised one (1) year term of this contract.

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**Table 3 below represents estimated costs as submitted by Montessori schools relative to their Summit Montessori training plan for School Year 2021**

	<b>King, Dr. Martin Luther</b>	<b>Virginia Shuman Young</b>	<b>Beachside</b>
<b>PROPOSED TOTAL # of Teacher Impacted</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>
Identified Need & Budgeted Cost @ a maximum of \$6100/teacher	\$6,100	\$12,200	\$6,100
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$24,400</b>		

Please see below breakdown for entire bid term:

Estimated spending authority for twelve (12) months	\$24,400
Term of the agreement (years)	x 3
Estimated total spending authority until expiration	\$73,200

The funding source is allocated through the 2020-2021 Magnet Schools Budget. The funds for this Agreement will be paid from each participating schools’ budgets through allocations received from the District’s Innovative Programs Department’s Magnet funds allocation process and guidelines.

The financial impact amount represents an estimated contract value; however, expenditures for this contract should not exceed \$24,400.