

## 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, 2025.

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.

The financial impact to the District will be \$181,800.

#### 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, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Montessori Academy and Virginia Shuman Young Elementary Schools.

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 their 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 first three (3) years, June 2020 to June 2022. Teachers who enroll during the June 2022 session will, therefore, have until June 2025 to complete. A new agreement will be established in June 2023 for new enrollments.

Beginning in the 2017-2018 school year, BTU contract language was amended to include a commitment clause for teachers assigned to teach Montessori core courses at a Montessori school

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(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.

**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**

The financial impact of this Agreement is \$181,800. The funding source is allocated through the 2020-2025 Magnet Schools Budget.

The funds for this contract 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 \$181,800.