

CAMBRIDGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

21-297



135 Berkshire Street, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02141

October 5, 2021

TO THE HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE:

CONTRACT: Professional Development

RECOMMENDATION:

That the School Committee approve a contract with the following vendor, funds to be provided in accordance with the budget reference listed below. Procurement procedures for this purchase have complied with Chapter 30B of the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

<u>Contractor</u>	<u>Period of Contract</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Teaching & Learning Alliance 800 West Cummings Park Suite 5900 Woburn, MA 02302	9/1/21 – 5/30/22	\$154,400.00

DESCRIPTION: This contract is for professional development to support the Teaching & Learning Alliance (TLA) Phonics program. See attached supplemental information for additional details.

SUPPORTING DATA, RULES OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE: Chapter III, Section 12..." motions calling for the appropriation or expenditure of money require the affirmative vote of four members."

BUDGET REFERENCE:

Fund		Account		Dept.	
15000	General Fund		Professional	869660	Curriculum & Instruction/Prof Dev
25000	Grant Fund	55107	Development	859660	Title One/Prof Dev

Respectfully Submitted,

Victoria L. Greer, PhD
Interim Superintendent of Schools

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SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION: Teaching & Learning Alliance Contract

Purpose:

During FY22, we will we will engage the Teaching and Learning Alliance, Inc., to provide professional development and materials to support the training and implementation of the TLA Phonics Program in grades JK- Grade 5 at the Amigos, Cambridgeport, Haggerty, Kennedy Longfellow, Morse and Peabody Schools.

Amount of Contract: \$154,400

Description/Scope of Services:

This contract includes professional development and materials to support the training and implementation of the TLA Phonics Program in six (6) CPS elementary schools. Administrators, coaches, general educators and special educators will be trained in the TLA Phonics Program. Professional learning includes support with lesson development, in class coaching, facilitated grade level planning meetings, and customized support throughout the school year designed with each school team and based on the needs of both students and educators.

TLA Phonics is a systematic, sequential phonics program that supports students' phonemic and phonological awareness and development. These foundational skills are a critical component of early literacy development along with vocabulary, fluency, comprehension, and writing. This professional learning is aligned with the CPS district goal to strengthen Tier 1 inclusive instruction and supports the district outcome of third grade reading proficiency.

Additional Information

All elementary schools have now implemented a systematic, sequential phonics program as an important component of our elementary literacy program. In addition to the 7 schools implementing TLA, all other 5 elementary schools are implementing either Foundations or a phonics program specific to their school's program (Tobin Montessori, Chinese Immersion, and Ola). We will continue to work as a team to examine data to see the impact of this instruction on both isolated skills and overall reading comprehension as part of our continued focus on improving literacy instruction.