

Addendum #3

Summer Learning 2021

Issue Date: Tuesday, March 23, 2021

Bids Due: Wednesday, March 31, 2021

1. For letters of reference, can we provide letters of reference from parents?

We are really looking here for more systems-level or organization-level references from partners who have worked with you.

2. Are there any limitations on the number of students that can be served?

No, there is not a limitation but we want to provide a variety of programming for our students. So you might propose that you're going to serve 1,000 students, but if we have a limited pot of funding, we may only fund a portion of that enrollment and programming. We recommend no more than 300 students per organization...

3. Must each program serve the full range of preK-12 or can a program serve a particular grade segment?

You do not have to serve PreK-12. You can pick your particular grade or grade segment.

4. Can we get creative with ACN too?

You can propose something like that; We would want to see the structure of that for us to review.
ACN

5. Is it still allowed to work with the City of Providence about food service?

Yes

6. A question about how to go about getting access to school buildings.

Jael and team will assist with coordination of this. Don't reach out to schools directly yourself. If you have a specific site that you'd like to request, please make that request in your proposal. We will do our best to accommodate these requests based on building construction, renovation, and maintenance and other programmatic needs.

7. Do you anticipate being able to share family contact info?

Selected vendors will need to fill out a data request form from our office of Research, Planning and Accountability in order for us to share family contact information. We will discuss this process during contract negotiations.

8. Do we have any COVID bussing limits around capacity of buses? E.G. how many students are allowed per bus?

Current guidance is half the capacity of the bus. So for a large 72 passenger bus it is 36 including staff. We are not sure if rules will loosen for summer 2021.

9. Do you know if Mt. Pleasant will be undergoing renovations this summer?

Not at this time. Vendors should identify schools in their proposal. If funded, we will work with the vendor to find a school to host the program.

10. Do you anticipate that the guidance on assessments may change?

The RFP does not have any guidance on assessments, we would like to see what vendors propose and our Teaching and Learning Department will provide feedback.

11. What is the ratio of certified teachers to students?

1:15

12. What are your expectations in terms of in-person vs. online?

We expect folks to have prepared for both and would encourage proposals to include both in-person and online programming.

13. Do we anticipate looking for credit recovery programs this summer? And if so, what will that process be?

Credit recovery is a separate scope of work that the district may be implementing and that is primarily led by our certified teachers. That will be a separate process. Should outside organizations be needed to support credit recovery, that would be a separate Request for Proposals.

14. What type of assistance could be expected in recruiting?

We expect that vendors will do the recruitment and develop the application. We ask that you let us review the application before it is distributed. We do not send things home. We will post on our website about all of the programs available and we will provide families with links to websites.

15. Can we reach out to the City of Providence's Summer Jobs for Youth program re: access to stipends for students?

Yes, you may do that.

16. Question regarding approval process as it relates to School Board.

Contracts exceeding \$200,000 will be reviewed by the School Board Finance Committee and full School Board in April or May.

17. Page 8 of the RFP states, "Provide a high-quality enrichment learning program model with a focus on math, reading". Is PPSD looking for a vendor that provides both a math and reading program? Or, is the district open to selecting multiple vendors, one for math, and one for reading?

Vendors can do either or they can just do the activity based in the afternoons in partnership with the district. We recommend 90 minutes of an academic block of time throughout the day for reading or math.

18. The RFP states, "Provide a high-quality enrichment learning program model with a focus on math, reading." Do programs need to provide both reading and math instruction, or could emphasis be one of the two subjects? If so, are there any specifications about the amount of time devoted to each subject? Could you please define what you mean by reading and math?

Vendors can do either or they can just do the activity based in the afternoons in partnership with the district. We recommend 90 minutes of an academic block of time throughout the day for reading or math.

19. The RFP states, "Providers can also implement literacy, STEM, STEAM and Robotics as a secondary component of the program." How is literacy different from reading in this case? How is STEM/STEAM/Robotics different from math? Couldn't the math component be a STEM/STEAM/Robotics-focused curriculum that makes math content more relevant and engaging for students?

Literacy is reading, writing, speaking, digital, presentational and conversational. STEM is the application of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. It's a way to engage students in learning. Robotics and STEM are great math activities.

20. In regards to this requirement, "Describe a detailed plan to collect and share data to assess the overall quality and effectiveness of the summer learning program. The district in collaboration with the applicant will review and approve the appropriate tools for assessments." Can the district provide a list of assessments that will be required?

Vendors can identify an assessment based on their program model and we will guide if awarded.

21. In regards to this requirement, "Applicants are required to leverage at least 20% of their total per-pupil cost through external funding sources," can the 20% include in-kind such as faculty time and facilities usage?

Yes, it can be faculty associated with this program but not facility usage.

22. We would need to hold the program at Mt. Pleasant High School, as the program would be for incoming 9th graders. The RFP states, "If the proposed program will be on-site in Providence schools, applicants must demonstrate a clear plan to collaborate with the District for shared spaces and facilities usage. (*Note: all organizations using school property must comply with regulations set forth by the District, including the requirement to obtain coverage for property damage and general liability insurance. All requirements will be included in the contracting*

process and Memorandum of Understanding). -- Could detail on the cost of insurance be provided so that it can be included in the budget? Would any additional costs need to be provided?

Vendors must furnish certificates of property damage in the amount of \$100,000 and general liability insurance in the amount of \$2,000,000 with The Providence School Department, the City of Providence, and the Providence Public Buildings Authority as additional insured.

23. In the conference, it was mentioned that providing meals and transportation was strongly recommended. Could the district help to arrange bus passes for rising 9th graders? If so, what is the cost of a bus pass for 6 weeks? Will meals again be provided by the city at Mt. Pleasant High School this summer?

This would be a line-item in your budget. We recommend that meals be provided by the City, it is up to the Vendor to make those arrangements. We will make the same connection to our bus company. Bus passes should be included in your budget.

24. In regards to the letter of support from partners or clients. The RFP states, "These partners or clients should not be PPSD staff." Since this program is part of the RIC-MPHS Partnership, could the letter be from the administration team at Mt. Pleasant High School? If not, who would you recommend submit such a letter? Could the letter come from a student or mentor participant?

The letter could be from another district or organization that is not PPSD.

25. If the total budget is under \$200,000 and does not require school committee approval, what would the timeline for approval be? Would we have a response sooner than the April/May School Committee meetings?

If the budget is under \$200,000 it does not require school committee approval and the timeline is the same.

26. The RFP states that we should submit 1 original, 1 copy, and 1 electronic PDF on a flash drive in a sealed envelope. Should the budget be in a separate sealed envelope?

No, the budget should be included in the same envelope

27. Contracts are dependent on federal funding, when will PPSD know if they get the funding?

The passage of the FY22 budget will determine funding for this scope of work.

28. May we recruit before signing a contract (if we include language about a possible program)?

As stated in the RFP, contracts are contingent upon funding and approval from PPSD leadership and School Board. If a vendor decides to recruit before the contract is approved, the cost associated with recruitment activities is the vendor's responsibility.

29. Can programs be offered in a virtual format?

We ask vendors to submit a proposal that includes all three delivery models (in-person, virtual and hybrid). We would like to see a plan for all three delivery models.

30. Will STAR testing be required?

We ask vendors to propose an assessment tool aligned to their program. PPSD will guide on assessment during contract negotiations.

31. If STAR testing is not required, does the District have suggested ways for programs to demonstrate academic gains?

PPSD will guide on assessment during contract negotiations.

32. Is there a minimum or maximum number of students programs must serve?

No

33. Clarifying question - from whom we should be seeking "letters of support from clients".

Clients refer to organizations/ districts you have worked with other than PPSD

34. Another question is there any flexibility around the expectation of having a 6-week program?

The program length is the same as last year - 6 weeks.