

**OFFICE OF INSTRUCTIONAL ENHANCEMENT AND INTERNAL OPERATIONS**  
**Summary of State Board of Education Agenda Items**  
**April 17-18, 2014**

**OFFICE OF CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION**

26. Approval to renew contract with Cambium Education, Inc., dba Sopris Learning, for Fiscal Year 2015 for the operation of the Mississippi K-3 Literacy Professional Development Training System

Awarded Vendor: Cambium Education, Inc., dba Sopris Learning  
Dallas, TX

Scope of Project: The original contract language for Cambium Education, Inc., dba Sopris Learning, indicated an option to renew an additional two years beyond the original ending date of June 30, 2014. This contract renewal includes year two (first additional year) to pay for service to provide training for teachers and administrators.

The contractor is responsible for the total operation and management of the K-3 Literacy Training to build content and pedagogical knowledge of the essential elements of literacy and provide strategies for supporting effective reading instruction.

Personnel associated with this contract are not former Department employees or related to any Department employees.

Basis for Contract: Section 37-177-19 of the Mississippi Code authorizes the Mississippi Department of Education to provide technical assistance as may be needed to aid local school districts in administering the provisions of the legislation.

Scope of Contract:

- Term of Contract Renewal: November 20, 2013 – June 30, 2015
- Cost of Current Contract: Amount not to exceed \$3,200,000
- Renewal Increase: \$3,700,000
- Total Cost of Contract Renewal: Amount not to exceed \$6,900,000
- Method of Award: Request for Proposals

Funding Source: State funds

Recommendation: Approval

Back-up material attached

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
Office of Curriculum and Instruction  
Mississippi K-3 Literacy Professional Development Training System  
Cambium Education, Inc.

**Training Overview**

Mississippi teachers and administrators responsible for Kindergarten – 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students, as well as higher education faculty, can participate in the Language Essentials for Teachers of Reading and Spelling (LETRS) training focused on improving literacy instruction. All K-3 teachers from the 50 target schools and MDE literacy staff are required to participate in this training.

The chart below provides the projected number of participants to be trained during the 2013-2014 and 2014-2015 school years.

Category	2013-2014	2014-2015	2014-2015	2014-2015
	Cohort A-Phase I Participants	Cohort A-Phase II Participants	Cohort B-Phase I Participants	Cohort B-Phase II Participants
LETRS training for Teachers	3,500	3,500	3,000	3,000
LETRS training for Administrators	550	550	300	300
LETRS training for Higher Education Faculty	75	75	150	150

**Contract History**

Year	FY	Initial Projected Contract Cost	Actual Contract Cost
1	FY14	\$3,200,000	\$3,200,000
2	FY15	\$3,700,000	\$3,700,000
3	FY16	\$2,600,000	
		<b>\$9,500,000</b>	<b>\$6,900,000</b>

The awarded vendor is in compliance with all specifications of the contract.