

**OFFICE OF CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICER**  
**Summary of State Board of Education Agenda Items**  
**Consent Agenda**  
**April 16-17, 2015**

**OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

- G. Approval to renew contract with Cambium Education, Inc., DBA Sopris Learning, for Fiscal Year 2016 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 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.

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 three (second additional year) to pay for service to provide training for teachers and administrators.

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, 2016
- Cost of Current Contract: Amount not to exceed \$6,900,000
- Renewal Increase: \$2,600,000
- Total Cost of Contract Renewal: Amount not to exceed \$9,500,000
- Method of Award: Request for Proposals

Funding Source: State funds

Recommendation: Approval

Back-up material attached

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
Office of Professional Development  
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 literacy target schools and MDE literacy staff are required to participate in this training.

The chart below provides the number of participants trained during 2013-2014 and the projected number of participants to be trained during the 2014-2015 and 2015-2016 school years.

<b>Category</b>	<b>Actual 2013-2014 Participants</b>	<b>Actual 2014-2015 Participants</b>	<b>Projected Remaining 2014-2015 Participants</b>	<b>Projected 2015-2016 Participants</b>
LETRS Training	4,737	2,594	803	2,500
Principal Primer training for Administrators	440	243	0	250
Institutions of Higher Learning	64	0	20	20
Pre-Service Teachers	0	51	25	75

**Contract History**

<b>Year</b>	<b>FY</b>	<b>Contract Cost</b>
1	FY14	\$3,200,000
2	FY15	\$3,700,000
3	FY16	\$2,600,000
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$9,500,000</b>

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

*Miss. Code Ann. § 37-177-19*

MISSISSIPPI CODE of 1972

\*\*\* Current through the 2014 Regular Session and 1st and 2nd Extraordinary Sessions \*\*\*

TITLE 37. EDUCATION  
CHAPTER 177. LITERACY-BASED PROMOTION ACT

Miss. Code Ann. § 37-177-19 (2014)

§ 37-177-19. Implementation of chapter

(1) The State Board of Education shall adopt such policies, rules and regulations as may be necessary for the implementation of this chapter.

(2) The State Department of Education shall provide such technical assistance and training of teachers/administrators as may be needed to aid local school districts in administering the provisions of this chapter.

(3) Each local school district must include provisions required by this chapter as an addition to the district's published handbook of policy for employees and students beginning in school year 2013-2014.

**HISTORY:** SOURCES: Laws, 2013, ch. 495, § 10, eff from and after passage (approved April 17, 2013.)