

OFFICE OF STATE SUPERINTENDENT
Summary of State Board of Education Agenda Items
November 12, 2021

OFFICE OF STATE SUPERINTENDENT

02.C. Action: Contract with Dr. Kim S. Benton to serve as Interim Deputy State Superintendent in the Office of Academic Education [Goals 4 and 6 – MBE Strategic Plan]

Awarded Vendor: Dr. Kim S. Benton
 Hickory, Mississippi

Scope of Project: The Contractor will provide oversight and leadership of all activities and projects for the following program offices within the MDE: Office of Elementary Education and Reading; Office of Secondary Education, Career and Technical Education, and Professional Development; Office of Special Education; Office of Compulsory School Attendance Enforcement; Office of Federal Programs; Office of School Improvement; Office of School District Consolidation; and the oversight of the State’s special schools: Mississippi School of the Arts; Mississippi Schools for the Deaf and the Blind; and Mississippi School for Mathematics and Science.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Lead the State's work for all assigned reporting program offices.
- Establish and maintain productive relationships with key state and national organizations related to academic education and college- and career-readiness.
- Prepare and maintain the budget and contracts related to the Office of Academic Education.
- Prepare information and presentations for the State Board of Education (SBE), the Mississippi Legislature, and various related commissions.
- Serve as a member of the Superintendent's Executive Leadership Team.
- Serve as the liaison with other offices and communicate regularly to ensure maximum efficiency in the delivery of services to schools and districts.
- Analyze, interpret, and execute effective decision-making strategies using multiple data sources to effectively guide PreK-12 instructional programs.
- Interpret and provide public school officials with information regarding effective educational policies and procedures.
- Review and recommend appointment of personnel needed to perform the activities of the department.
- Any additional duties as assigned by the State Superintendent of Education.

Personnel associated with this contract is a former Department employee and is not related to any Department employee. The contractor is a PERS retiree.

Scope of Contract:

- Term of Contract: November 15, 2021 – June 30, 2022
- Total Amount to be Awarded: \$ 65,560.61
- Method of Award: Request for Applications

Funding Source: State funds

Summary of Selection Process:

A competitive selection process was utilized to award contract.

Scoring Criteria:

- A. Application
- B. Resume
- C. Other

This item references Goals 4 and 6 of the *Mississippi Board of Education 2018-2022 Strategic Plan*.

Recommendation: Approval

Back-up material: None