



135 Berkshire Street, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02141

August 9, 2022

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>
ThinkLaw 3651 Lindell Road, Suite D692 Las Vegas, NV 89103	7/1/22 – 6/30/23	\$105,000.00

DESCRIPTION: This contract is for professional development services to support policy development, design and training for advanced learners. See the 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 53107	Professional Development 852660
		Office of Student Services/Professional Development

Respectfully Submitted,
Victoria L. Greer, PhD
Victoria L. Greer, PhD
Superintendent of Schools

CS

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION: ThinkLaw

Purpose: To help educators teach critical thinking to ALL students.

Amount of Contract: \$105,000.00

Description/Scope of Services:

This proposal summarizes a comprehensive partnership where ThinkLaw will support Cambridge Public Schools (CPS) in the policy development, design and training for advanced learners as part of a systemic continuum of supports and services for all learners. The components of this partnership are:

1. Consulting for Division Development (\$49,500): ThinkLaw, working closely with Cambridge's Director of MTSS and Child Support Team, will provide strategic communication and planning support for the development of an integrated continuum of supports for advanced learners. This will include:
 - A. Identification: ThinkLaw will provide training and tangible resources around equitable practices for identifying students for advanced learner services, leveraging a balanced continuum of student supports and services and integrating the needs and perspectives of families.
 - B. Program models: ThinkLaw will support the design and development of research-based programming models to support identified students, while also leveraging the benefits of advanced learner services across all classrooms to create a joyful, rigorous academic experience for each student.

2. Training and Implementation (\$55,500): ThinkLaw will select central office staff, school leadership, teachers and families through a series of workshops that support successful implementation of the policy and guidelines for advanced and gifted learner services.
 - A. Teacher and Leadership resources: This series of workshops will include training on best practices for advanced learner identification, supports for integrating advanced learner supports within existing instruction and research-based tools to articulate the equity argument for advanced academic instruction.
 - B. Family resources -Family workshop: "Beyond Full Potential" – All parents want their children to be successful. But parents of gifted children often feel an added pressure to unleash their child's "full potential". This webinar will give parents of gifted children powerful but practical tools to understand the harms of the "full potential" myth and practical tools to move towards a more healthy, hopeful and happy path to set children up to excel.
 - C. Resource: Raising Critical Thinkers: A practical but powerful set to take home and online resources to support parents in day-to-day conversations, activities and strategies to nurture critical thinking at home with their children.