



135 Berkshire Street, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02141

May 6, 2025

TO THE HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE:

CONTRACT: Computer Software (FY26 Contract)

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> |
|---|---------------------------|---------------|
| Curriculum Associates, LLC 153 Rangeway Road N. Billerica, MA 01862 | 7/1/25 – 6/30/26 | \$185,495.00 |

DESCRIPTION: This contract will enable the district to continue to use the i-Ready Diagnostic and the i-Ready Personalized Instruction component, for students in grades 3-8.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

See 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 I require the affirmative vote of four members."

BUDGET REFERENCE:

| Fund | | Account | | Dept. | | Project | |
|-------|--------------|---------|----------|--------|----------------------------------|---------|------|
| 15000 | General Fund | | Computer | 851815 | Educational Technology | | |
| 25000 | Grant Fund | 55804 | Software | 852510 | Research Evaluation & Assessment | | |
| | | | | | OSS/Student Services | SC25605 | IDEA |

Respectfully Submitted,

David Murphy
Interim Superintendent of Schools

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION: Curriculum Associates i-Ready

Purpose: Curriculum & Assessment System Support and Strategic Intervention

Amount of Contract: \$185,495.00

Description/Scope of Services:

This contract will enable the district to continue use of the i-Ready Diagnostic for students in grades 3-8, as well as, purchase the i-Ready Personalized Instruction component, which provides students with lessons based on their individual skill level and needs, using insights from the i-Ready Diagnostic. The Personalized Instruction component allows students to learn at a pace that is just right for them and provides students with instruction and practice in areas where they need the most support.

The Personalized Instruction lessons:

- Feature culturally relevant topics, so students see themselves reflected in their learning
- Use corrective feedback to promote productive struggle, so students become more independent
- Encourage participation, not just listening
- Help students make real-world connections and understand the “why” behind the “how”
- Let students track their progress in their own dashboard, so they become owners of their learning and growth

i-Ready Personalized Instruction is complemented by easily accessible teacher resources that enable teachers to target the specific skills with which students are struggling most in their whole class, small group and one-to-one instruction. Teachers receive intuitive, personalized reports with actionable data to track student progress. They even receive alerts when students need more of their support on a skill. Adding this component of i-Ready will further accelerate student learning through opportunities for differentiation and independence. It will also bring parents more into day-to-day learning in ways that can be leveraged for homework, out-of-school time and summer.

CAMBRIDGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

135 Berkshire Street, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02141

25-110



May 6, 2025

TO THE HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE:

CONTRACT AWARD: Computer Software (FY26 Contract)

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> |
|---|---------------------------|---------------|
| CDW Government LLC 230 N. Milwaukee Ave. Vernon Hills, IL 60061 | 7/1/26 – 6/30/26 | \$100,000.00 |

DESCRIPTION: This contract is for the district computer software subscriptions.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

See 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 | 55802 | Computer Supplies | 851117 | Computer Education |

Respectfully Submitted,


David Murphy
Interim Superintendent of Schools

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION: CDW

Purpose: The purpose of this contract with CDW is to procure essential software licenses to enhance productivity, security, collaboration, and design capabilities with the Cambridge Public Schools. These tools will support various functions across different departments and user groups.

Amount of Contract: \$100,000.00

Description/Scope of Services:

This contract will enable the district to purchase licenses for the following software and permits the procurement of additional licenses for these or new software.

Google Workspace: This includes licenses for applications such as Gmail, Google Drive, Google Docs, Google Sheets, Google Slides, Google Meet, Google Calendar, Google Chat, Google Forms, Google Sites, and Google Classroom. Features include real-time collaboration, secure file sharing, administrative controls for user management and security, and mobile accessibility.

Gemini Licenses: To integrate AI-powered assistance within the Google Workspace environment. It can assist with research, content generation, communication, and task completion. Gemini offers enterprise-grade data protection, ensuring that prompts and generated content remain within the organization's Google Workspace environment and are not used for model training outside the domain without permission.

Chrome Gopher: To facilitate the management and analysis of ChromeOS devices. This add-on allows for the import, filtering, analysis, and bulk updating of Chrome device data. It enables actions such as bulk moving devices between organizational units, enabling/disabling or deprovisioning devices, editing asset tags and user information, and generating reports on device usage.

Gopher for Users: This tool allows for bulk creation, deletion, and updating of user account information. Features include resetting passwords, updating user properties and attributes, managing user aliases and domain group membership, and generating reports on user activity. It simplifies user management tasks.

Adobe: To provide professional-grade tools for graphic design, video editing, and document management. Adobe Creative Cloud offers a subscription-based model providing access to a suite of these applications.

Tenable Vulnerability Management: Tenable software helps identify, analyze, and prioritize security vulnerabilities across IT assets, cloud resources, and web applications. Features include vulnerability scanning, reporting, asset tracking, and potentially integration with other security tools.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION: CDW

Cisco Duo: Cisco Duo provides a layer of security beyond passwords by requiring users to verify their identity using a secondary factor (commonly known as Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA)). Duo helps prevent breaches caused by compromised credentials and provides visibility into device security.

AutoCAD: AutoCAD is used by architects, engineers, designers, and other professionals to create detailed technical drawings and models. It includes tools for 2D drafting, 3D modeling, annotation, and collaboration. AutoCAD enables design and documentation across desktop, web, and mobile platforms.



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| <u>Contractor</u> | <u>Period of Contract</u> | <u>Amount</u> |
|---|---------------------------|---------------|
| ParentSquare, Inc. 6144 Calle Real, Suite 200A Goleta, CA 93117 | 7/1/25 – 6/30/26 | \$43,029.36 |

DESCRIPTION: This contract for the annual renewal for the CPS communications platform with parents and guardians.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

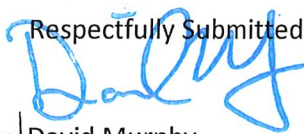
See attached supplemental for additional information.

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 | 55804 | Computer Software | 892780 | Information, Communication & Technology Services |

Respectfully Submitted,


David Murphy
Interim Superintendent of Schools

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION: ParentSquare

Purpose: To provide a unified communication platform for the Cambridge Public Schools to connect and engage with parents and guardians. It aims to streamline communication, eliminate the need for multiple apps, and ensure that all families receive important information in their preferred language and format.

Amount of Contract: \$43,029.36

Description/Scope of Services: Parent Square offers a wide array of features for both parents/guardians and schools. For parents, it centralizes school communications, allows preferred communication methods, enables two-way messaging, provides access to school information, facilitates responses, and offers language translation. For schools, it provides tools for mass notifications, classroom communication, direct messaging, digital forms, event and volunteer management, appointment scheduling, and secure document sharing.



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| <u>Contractor</u> | <u>Period of Contract</u> | <u>Amount</u> |
|--|---------------------------|---------------|
| The New England Center for Children 33 Turnpike Road Southborough, MA 01772 | 7/1/25 – 6/30/26 | \$75,000.00 |

DESCRIPTION: This contract is for autism curriculum software.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

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 | 55804 | Computer Software | 852330 | Office of Student Services Academic Strategies Support |

Respectfully Submitted,


David Murphy
Interim Superintendent of Schools

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION: The New England Center for Children

Purpose: To provide services for our students with autism spectrum disorders

Amount of Contract: \$75,000.00

Description/Scope of Services:

New England Center for Children (NECC) and the Cambridge Public Schools as an implementation site for the Autism Curriculum Encyclopedia (ACE) program. New England Center for Children (NECC) provides autism-specific, specially designed instruction to substantially separate classroom special educators. NECC provides research/evidence-based lesson planning tools for educators to develop lessons aligned with IEP goals & IEP goal-related data collection, such as self-help and life skills. Educators will use the ACE application to help structure individualized lesson plans for students with autism based on each student's specific needs and abilities. ACE will allow educators to oversee student programming.



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May 6, 2025

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| <u>Contractor</u> | <u>Period of Contract</u> | <u>Amount</u> |
|--|---------------------------|---------------|
| SHI International 290 Davidson Avenue Somerset, NJ 08873 | 4/30/25-4/29/26 | \$29,473.68 |

DESCRIPTION: This contract is for the implementation and setup of a Content Management System (CMS) which will streamline the creation, organization, management, and publication of digital content.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

See the attached supplemental information for additional details.

SUPPORTING DATA, RULES OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE: Chapter II, 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 | 53101 | Professional & Tech Services | 892780 | ICTS/Information Technology |

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "D. Murphy".

W David Murphy
Interim Superintendent of Schools

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION: SHI FinalSite

Purpose: The purpose of this purchase is for a Content Management System (CMS) which will streamline the creation, organization, management, and publication of digital content. CMS provides a user-friendly interface to handle these tasks efficiently. In order to replicate our current website design and branding as well as convert our existing webpage content there will be a multi month implementation process to have a fully functional CPS specific website.

Amount of Contract: \$29,473.68

Description/Scope of Services:

The implementation process will include:

- Replicating our current website design and branding
- Converting our existing webpage content
- Improving our navigation process by Organizing and managing that content for easier access, maintenance, and enabling an Artificial Intelligence (AI) enhanced search feature with native language features, greatly improving the user's search experience.
- Setting up a new Workflow of content creation and publication, allowing for a wider group to create the content that is approved before publication.
- Enabling Improved language translation of content beyond Google Translate with Weglot
- Creating an intranet that makes CPS Employee information accessible through an employee portal.



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| <u>Contractor</u> | <u>Period of Contract</u> | <u>Amount</u> |
|--|---------------------------|---------------|
| SHI International 290 Davidson Avenue Somerset, NJ 08873 | 7/1/25-6/30/26 | \$31,579.00 |

DESCRIPTION: This contract will provide a workflow system (Droplet) to automate paper forms for CPS Departments.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

See the attached supplemental information for additional details.

SUPPORTING DATA, RULES OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE: Chapter II, 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 | 55804 | Computer Software | 892780 | ICTS/Information Technology |

Respectfully Submitted,

A blue ink signature of David Murphy.
David Murphy
Interim Superintendent of Schools

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION: SHI (Droplet)

Purpose: Droplet allows for the Cambridge Public Schools to digitize manual processes that often rely on paper and spreadsheets. Its central purpose is to streamline workflows, improve efficiency, enhance data accuracy, and ultimately save time and resources. Droplet achieves this by providing a suite of intuitive tools that enables users to build and deploy sophisticated digital solutions.

Amount of Contract: \$31,579.00

Description/Scope of Services:

Droplet is a versatile platform that allows for the Cambridge Public Schools to:

- Digitize Paper-Based Processes: eliminate manual data entry, reduce errors, and improve efficiency
- Automate Repetitive Tasks: free up valuable employee time to focus on more strategic initiatives
- Improve Data Accuracy and Accessibility: centralize data collection and storage, making information readily available and reliable
- Enhance Collaboration and Communication: streamline workflows and provide clear visibility into processes

Droplet offers a versatile platform to digitize manual processes, automate tasks, enhance data management, and improve collaboration.



May 6, 2025

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CONTRACT: Computer Software (FY26 Contract)

RECOMMENDATION:

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| <u>Contractor</u> | <u>Period of Contract</u> | <u>Amount</u> |
|--|---------------------------|---------------|
| Branching Minds 157 Columbia Ave, 4 th Floor New York, NY 10023 | 7/1/25 – 6/30/26 | \$73,560.00 |

DESCRIPTION: This contract is for a Multi-Tiered System of Support system (MTSS) for Grades K-12.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

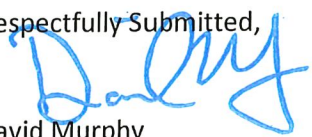
See attached supplemental information for additional details.

SUPPORTING DATA, RULES OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE: Chapter II, 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 | 55804 | Computer Software | 851510 | Educational Technology Student Services |

Respectfully Submitted,


David Murphy
Interim Superintendent of Schools

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION: Branching Minds

Purpose: Multi Tiered System of Support system (MTSS) for K-12

Amount of Contract: \$73,560.00

Description/Scope of Services:

CPS went through an extensive process in SY23-24 to identify a system to replace the highly manual process and various spreadsheets needed to compile student-level information for MTSS meetings. This process included a combination of district, curriculum and school leaders who vetted the top system options to define both functionality and ease of use with an understanding of school-based needs. At the end of this process, the team recommended the MTSS system by **Branching Minds**, which was subsequently implemented across the district in SY24-25. Now, school-based intervention personnel are able to schedule meetings, create intervention plans and enter both data and notes about student interventions as they occur while simultaneously having access to all the data they need in one place.

The system is supporting a robust MTSS process at both the school and district levels in order to:

1. Identify students who are at risk across multiple indicators
2. Enable a more holistic view of student data
3. Create and track interventions for students that are at risk of not meeting grade-level expectations; this includes tracking who is providing the intervention, with what frequency, targeting what school, and monitoring the progress of this work.
4. Assess impact of interventions on individual and groups of students
5. Assess effectiveness of types of interventions
6. Track district-level performance towards MTSS specific goals.

This continued funding will allow us to deepen this work to further refine our practices around MTSS so that more students move toward grade-level expectations.



May 6, 2025

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| <u>Contractor</u> | <u>Period of Contract</u> | <u>Amount</u> |
|---|---------------------------|---------------|
| Follett Software 1340 Ridgeview Drive McHenry, IL 60050 | 7/1/25 – 6/30/26 | \$47,730.00 |

DESCRIPTION: This contract is for the purchase of CPS special education system to centralize and streamline the entire Individualized Education Program (IEP) process.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

See 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 I require the affirmative vote of four members."

BUDGET REFERENCE:

| Fund | | Account | | Dept. | | Project | |
|-------|--------------|---------|----------|--------|-------------------------------|---------|-------------|
| 15000 | General Fund | 55804 | Computer | 852375 | Management | | IDEA IEP |
| 25000 | Grant Fund | | Software | | & Supervision, Special Ed. | SC25674 | Improvement |

Respectfully Submitted

David Murphy
Interim Superintendent of Schools

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION: Follett Aspen Special Education System

Purpose: The purpose of a Special Education System to centralize and streamline the entire Individualized Education Program (IEP) process, making it more efficient, collaborative, and compliant. It aims to ease the administrative burden on educators, improve communication with parents and caregivers, and ultimately support the development and implementation of effective IEPs for students with disabilities.

Amount of Contract: \$47,730.00

Description/Scope of Services:

The Aspen Special Education System will provide equivalent functionality as our current system and their company will provide improved responsiveness which, in turn, support us to respond more effectively to families at a lower cost (once the conversion is implemented).

Once all IEP data and documents have been transferred to the Aspen Special Education System, Parents/Guardians will have access to their child's IEP on the same system they access for other purposes; report cards and class schedules, for example. Educators will also be accessing the same system for Student Information and IEP creation.



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May 6, 2025

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| <u>Contractor</u> | <u>Period of Contract</u> | <u>Amount</u> |
|---|---------------------------|---------------|
| Follett Software 1340 Ridgeview Drive McHenry, IL 60050 | 7/1/25 – 6/30/26 | \$118,695.83 |

DESCRIPTION: This contract is for the Aspen student information system that includes teacher, administrator, student and parent interfaces; teacher gradebook; master schedule builder; and full interactive reporting.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

See 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 I require the affirmative vote of four members."

BUDGET REFERENCE:

| Fund | | Account | | Dept. | |
|-------|--------------|---------|-------------------|--------|--|
| 15000 | General Fund | 55804 | Computer Software | 892780 | Information Communications & Technology Services |

Respectfully Submitted,


David Murphy
Interim Superintendent of Schools

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION: Follett Software

Purpose: The purpose of engaging with Follett Aspen, through both the SIS renewal and the OLR module, is to provide a comprehensive and integrated platform for managing both student data and streamlining administrative processes within Cambridge Public Schools. This aims to: centralize student information, enhance efficiency, improve communication, support academic success, simplify enrollment, and ensure compliance.

Amount of Contract: \$118,695.83

Description/Scope of Services:

The combined scope of service encompasses the functionalities of both Follett Aspen SIS and the Aspen Online Registration module, creating an integrated ecosystem for student lifecycle management.

Follett Aspen Student Information (SIS): The Follett SIS is a centralized platform designed for managing comprehensive student data, including demographic information, enrollment, academics (gradebook, transcripts, curriculum), attendance, discipline, health records, and family information, all stored securely. It enhances communication and collaboration through parent and student portals, and offers robust reporting and analytics tools for state reporting, performance analysis, and identifying at-risk students, including data visualization.

Aspen Online Registration (OLR): Aspen OLR provides a user-friendly online parent portal for electronic submission of registration forms and documents, securely collecting student demographics, emergency contact information, health information, and prior school records. OLR offers seamless integration with the Aspen SIS, ensuring direct and accurate data transfer into student records and real-time synchronization with other modules, eliminating duplicate data entry.



May 6, 2025

TO THE HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE:

CONTRACT: Library Books (FY26 Contract)

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> |
| Follett School Solutions 1340 Ridgeview Drive McHenry, IL 60050 | 7/1/24 – 6/30/25 | \$75,000.00 |

DESCRIPTION: This contract is for the purchase of books for all CPS libraries.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

In an effort to streamline and expedite the purchase of library books for schools, CPS Purchasing department arranges a district-wide contract for vendors with whom the district annually does a large volume of business. These contracts enable CPS – but do not obligate it – to procure goods and services up to the contract value in a timely manner.

SUPPORTING DATA, RULES OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE: Chapter III, Section 12..." motions calling for the appropriation or expenditure of money I require the affirmative vote of four members."

BUDGET REFERENCE:

| Fund | | Account | | Dept. | |
|-------|--------------|---------|-------------------------|---------|-------------------------------|
| 15000 | General Fund | 55103 | Instructional Materials | Various | Various Schools & Departments |

Respectfully Submitted,

David Murphy
Interim Superintendent of Schools

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION: W.B. Mason

Purpose: Instructional, Recreational, Therapeutic and Arts & Crafts Materials

Amount of Contract: \$250,000.00

Description/Scope of Services:

W.B. Mason is a state contract awarded vendor with whom CPS regularly does a large volume of business with. Based on the FY25 expenditures (see table below):

| | |
|--|----------------------|
| Amigos | \$ 5,146.58 |
| Baldwin | \$ 6,700.21 |
| Cambridgeport | \$ 9,022.56 |
| Cambridge Street Upper | \$ 4,665.98 |
| Fletcher Maynard Academy | \$ 9,249.37 |
| Graham & Parks | \$ 4,438.83 |
| Haggerty | \$ 9,489.16 |
| King | \$ 9,481.96 |
| King Open | \$ 8,811.93 |
| Morse | \$ 7,769.41 |
| Peabody | \$ 3,701.41 |
| Putnam Ave Upper | \$ 9,348.16 |
| Rindge Ave Upper | \$ 8,192.66 |
| Tobin | \$ 7,511.82 |
| Vassal Lane Upper | \$ 9,843.61 |
| CRLS | \$ 16,229.59 |
| High School Ext. Program | \$ 2,350.26 |
| Math | \$ 2,248.15 |
| Multilingual Learner | \$ 2,838.55 |
| History & Social Science | \$ 1,085.61 |
| Physical Education/Health | \$ 5,000.00 |
| Home Based Program | \$ 2,500.00 |
| Office of Student Services | \$ 2,400.00 |
| Science | \$ 15,450.55 |
| Rindge School of Technical Arts | \$ 3,571.88 |
| Academic | \$ 3,200.00 |
| Visual & Performing Arts | \$ 3,457.05 |
| Other (sum of depts. spending under \$1,000) | \$ 4,500.00 |
| TOTAL | \$ 178,205.29 |

¹**Blanket Contract:** In an effort to coordinate procurement contracts across departments district-wide, the CPS Purchasing department arranges blanket contracts for vendors with whom the district annually