



June 17, 2025

TO THE HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE:

CONTRACT: Educational Services (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>
City Sprouts 678 Massachusetts Ave Cambridge, MA 02139	7/1/25 – 6/30/26	\$145,000.00

DESCRIPTION: This contract is for the facilitation of school gardens as an educational resource for teacher's instruction, as well as health and nutrition education.

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."
FY

BUDGET REFERENCE:

Fund		Account		Dept.	
15000	General Fund	55107	Instructional Services	842248	Science/Cambridge Partners

Respectfully Submitted,

TSM
IW

David Murphy
Interim Superintendent of Schools

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION: City Sprouts

Purpose: School Garden Project

Amount of Contract: \$145,000.00

Description/Scope of Services:

The CitySprouts program builds schools' capacity to integrate school gardens as an instructional resource for teachers, an effective and engaging means for food and health education for students, and a unifying center to strengthen school communities and family involvement. City Sprouts serves all Cambridge Public School (CPS) elementary and upper school students (pre-K through 8th grade). City Sprouts will provide the following services to Cambridge Public Schools from September 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026:

- Oversight of school gardens in elementary and middle schools. City Sprouts staff oversees planning, planting, maintenance and harvest of all CPS schoolyard gardens (and ancillary plots, where appropriate) and facilitate school and community use of the school garden as an educational resource for teachers, children and families. City Sprouts serves as an advocate for schools' outdoor education needs, *raising over \$50,000 for Cambridge school gardens each year.*
- Support for teachers' use of school gardens for instruction. City Sprouts provides all CPS elementary and upper schools with support staff for ten hours per week from September through June. The support staff team enables teachers' use of the school garden across disciplines for instruction in science, literacy and other academic areas. City Sprouts provides additional grade level and all-staff professional development activities for teachers, as requested by each school's leadership.
- Support for students' health and wellness. City Sprouts staff supports teacher and behavior specialists' use of the school garden for students' social emotional and trauma-sensitive learning.
- Out-of-school time programming for middle-school youth. City Sprouts summer and after school program serves 150 middle school youth through programming based at the four Upper School campuses. City Sprouts' Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) service-learning curriculum is designed to ignite young people's interest in science and engineering through the ecosystem of the garden. The curriculum dovetails with students' school year science instruction and mitigates learning loss in the summer. City Sprouts middle school programs are tuition-free for all families. A significant percentage of youth participating in City Sprouts Middle School programs are less-resourced.