



August 6, 2024

TO THE HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE:

CONTRACT: Educational Support Services

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>
uAspire 31 Milk Street, Suite 900 Boston, MA 02109	9/1/24 – 6/30/25	\$60,000.00

DESCRIPTION: This agreement is for college affordability advice for CRLS students and families.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

This agreement will provide current CRLS students and their families, as well as recent graduates and alumni (for the duration of their college experience), with information on and assistance with college selection, the college admissions process, and completing a college application. The service provider also will provide information on and assistance with applying for financial aid, including assistance with completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), CSS PROFILE, institutional financial aid and other financial aid. The provider also will provide information and teach students and families how to identify and apply for appropriate scholarships.

See attached supplemental 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	55107	Instructional Services	830255	CRLS/School Improvement

Respectfully Submitted,

David Murphy  
Interim Superintendent of Schools

## SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION: UASPIRE

**Purpose:** To provide CRLS students and their families with individualized, small and large group support with the college admissions, college applications, and financial aid processes.

**Amount of Contract:** \$60,000.00

**Description/Scope of Services:** The service provider will provide current CRLS students and their families, as well as recent graduates and alumni (for the duration of their college experience), with information on and assistance with college selection, the college admissions process, and completing a college application. The service provider also will provide information on and assistance with applying for financial aid, including assistance with completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), CSS PROFILE, institutional financial aid and other financial aid. The provider also will provide information and teach students and families how to identify and apply for appropriate scholarships. Specifically, the provider will:

- Meet individually with each CRLS senior class student at least one time during the school year.
- Provide the opportunity for students and families to participate in one-on-one information and advising service activities at the CRLS campus during regular school hours and at CRLS (or an offsite location) during after-school and evening hours. For the duration of the contract, the service provider shall be available during the school year, each school day, 6 hours per day (up to 30 hours per week). Additionally, the service provider should be available on-site at CRLS two days a week, 6 hours a day (up to 12 hours per week), over the summer months of July and August. Students and families also will have access to the service provider via email and telephone outside of these designated hours.
- Deliver informational sessions to small and large groups of students in a classroom setting. The provider will coordinate and collaborate with the CRLS Coordinator of Guidance and Principal on the information session's specific topics and content and scheduling of these sessions.
- Deliver informational workshops to students and families during and/or after-school and evening hours. Proposed workshops may include, but are not limited to: Understanding Financial Aid; Understanding Your Student Aid Report (SAR), and Private vs. Federal Loans. The provider will coordinate and collaborate with the CRLS Coordinator of Guidance and Principal on the workshop's specific topics and content and the scheduling of these workshops.
- Develop and implement a strategic plan to continue to support CRLS students once they have graduated (specifically during the summer months prior to them attending college) to ensure that they continue to meet all the college admission and financial aid deadlines and requirements. Such a plan may include summer text message and email support.
- Collaborate with the CRLS Coordinator of Guidance and administration on and participate in the financial aid and college planning events for students and families
- Join the City of Cambridge's College Success Initiative and participate as a member of this initiative's Advisory Committee and Financial Sub-committee. The service provider shall also work collaboratively with other CPS community partners, including, but not limited to, the City of Cambridge Mayor's Youth Summer Employment Program, Enroute, and Work Force Program.