



Agenda Request Form

Meeting Date	Agenda Item Number
June 18, 2020	A-1

Title
Approval of Renewal of Partnership Agreement with Cherokee Child Advocacy Council, Inc.
Requested Action
School Board Consideration of Superintendent's Recommendation to Approve the Renewal of the Partnership Agreement with Cherokee Child Advocacy Council, Inc.
Summary Explanation and Background
<p>One of the School Board's Blueprint 2020-24 Five Priority Areas is increasing meaningful family, partner and community engagement. We believe the meaningful connections we forge with students, families and community partners positively influence how we teach, lead and prepare graduates for success in a knowledge-based, technology rich and culturally diverse world.</p> <p>The School Board is requested to consider the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the renewal of the Partnership Agreement with Cherokee Child Advocacy Council, Inc.</p>
Priority Area
Family, Partner and Community Engagement
Financial Impact
N/A
Exhibits: (List)
Draft Agreement Attached
Source of Additional Information
Dr. Brian V. Hightower 770.479.1871 Barbara Jacoby 770.479.1871

PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

BETWEEN

THE CHEROKEE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

AND

CHEROKEE CHILD ADVOCACY COUNCIL, INC.

This agreement entered into on this ~~19th~~ day of June, 2014 18th day of June, 2020 by and between the Cherokee County Board of Education, hereinafter referred to as the "School Board" and Cherokee Child Advocacy Council, Inc., hereinafter referred to as "Council."

WHEREAS, the School District's mission is to ~~enable all students to become contributing citizens who can communicate effectively, gather and use information, make responsible decisions, utilize technology effectively and adapt to the challenges of the future~~ educate the emerging generation through learning environments designed to increase the performance of all students; and,

WHEREAS, one of the School District's ~~Major System Priorities~~ is to ~~increase parental and community involvement through public engagement policies and practices that treat parents, businesses, community-based organizations and agencies, local institutions of higher learning and other public entities as true partners in the educational process~~ Priority Areas is Family, Partner and Community Engagement; and,

WHEREAS, the Council's Child Advocacy Center program at the Anna Crawford Children's Center assists child victims of abuse in recovering from the trauma that they have experienced, including physical, sexual and psychological abuse. This assistance is provided through a variety of evidence-based, trauma-focused interventions. All services are provided by clinicians with specialized training in the areas of child abuse and trauma. All forms of evaluation and treatment are provided in English and Spanish in a child-friendly atmosphere to help reduce anxiety and minimize trauma; and,

WHEREAS, the Council's Parent HELP program works with parents and caregivers to teach appropriate parenting and life skills through mentoring

programs, resource/referral services, parenting groups, individual and family counseling and educational opportunities. In addition to center-based services, Parent HELP provides home-based services for individuals who do not have transportation. Parent HELP offers Darkness to Light group workshops to raise awareness of the prevalence and consequences of child sexual abuse by educating adults about the steps they can take to prevent, recognize and react responsibly to the reality of child sexual abuse. Parent HELP services are provided in English, Spanish and Portuguese.

~~WHEREAS, the Council's Children's Stabilization and Assessment Center provides a safe and temporary placement for children removed from their parents by the Department of Family and Children Services in order to ensure that their next placement will be the best placement for them. The center also facilitates psychological assessments and medical and dental examinations in addition to providing mentoring, tutoring, and transportation for the children to their original Cherokee County school of origin.~~

Now, therefore in consideration of the covenants and conditions set forth herein the parties agree as follows:

ARTICLE I

The parties agree that the foregoing recitals are true and correct and incorporated herein by reference:

ARTICLE II

The School Board will:

1. Work in conjunction with Council's representative in order to allow for program presentations at a Fall Principals' Meeting.
2. Provide the opportunity for Council personnel to address School System counselors, social workers and teachers to explain their role in the partnership.
3. Promote Council programs through existing communication channels, as permitted by School Board Policy.
4. In conjunction with Council representatives, pursue grant opportunities that will benefit both parties' interests.

ARTICLE III

The Council will:

1. In conjunction with the Office of School Operations and Student Services, provide the following services when referred by appropriate agencies (District Attorney's Office, law enforcement officials, Department of Family and Children Services, etc.):
 - A. Counseling and therapy in a child-friendly environment at no cost to families.
 - B. Support groups provided for non-offending family members.
 - C. Education and training relative to the needs of the community.
 - D. Parents HELP classes for parents and caregivers who could benefit from parent education and support.
 - E. Darkness to Light group classes for adults to raise awareness of the prevalence and consequences of child sexual abuse and to educate about the steps to take to prevent, recognize and react responsibly to the reality of child sexual abuse.
2. Be responsible for any claims, judgments or demands occasioned by the acts of their employees, agents or actors.
3. Meet with School System principals and counselors to explain their role in the partnership.
4. Provide Crisis Intervention Support to students/School System personnel, as requested.
5. Provide information relative to Council programs to the School District, as requested.
6. Provide continued representation on Safe and Drug Free Schools Community Advisory Committee, if requested by the School District and if Council staff is available.
7. Provide continued counseling assistance to schools as requested.
8. In conjunction with the Office of Grants Management, pursue grant opportunities that will benefit both parties' interests.
9. Provide Child Abuse and Neglect Recognition and Reporting training/information, as requested by the School District.
10. Accept all children/interested participants for participation within its programs without regard to their gender, race, political affiliation, age, national origin or handicapping condition or any other discrimination recognized and prohibited

by State or Federal Law. Children/participants with handicaps must be provided all necessary levels of supervision and must be included within the activities of the partnering organization. As a result of this partnership agreement, the Council must adhere to all local, State or Federal laws regarding education.

ARTICLE IV

The term of this contract is ~~June 19, 2014 through June 19, 2015~~ June 18, 2020 through June 18, 2021. This contract shall automatically renew for additional terms not to exceed five years unless either party notifies the other at least 60 days prior to renewal date

ARTICLE V

This contract may be terminated by either party upon thirty (30) days written notice to the other party with or without cause. All notice of this contract shall be given to the Superintendent of Cherokee County Schools at ~~110 Academy Street~~ PO Box 769, Canton, Georgia 3011469, and to the Executive Director, Cherokee Child Advocacy Council, 9870 Highway 92, Woodstock, Georgia 30188.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the parties have executed this document the first date referred to herein.

CHEROKEE CHILD ADVOCACY
COUNCIL, INC.:

THE CHEROKEE COUNTY BOARD
OF EDUCATION:

Amy Economopoulos
Executive Director

By: Kyla Cromer, Chairman

By: Dr. Brian V. Hightower
Superintendent of Schools

Approved as to form:

Tom Roach, Esquire