



**NORTH SLOPE BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
MEMORANDUM**

TO: Esther Evikanna, President
Members of the Board

THROUGH: David Vadiveloo, Superintendent *DSVadiveloo*

FROM: Michael Hautala, Director of Student Services MH

DATE: April 14, 2026

SUBJECT: **Contract Under \$50K – Arctic OT Services (Tracey Schaeffer)** **Memo No. SB26-126**
(Informational Item)

NSBSD Policy Manual:

Board Policy 3312, Contracts: The Superintendent of designee may enter into contracts and memoranda of agreement (MOA's) on behalf of the District. All contracts and MOA's with a dollar value of \$50,000 or greater must be approved by the School Board.

NSBSD Strategic Plan Summary:

Staff Support & Professional Development

Goal 6: Build and sustain a thriving workforce aligned with the mission of this District

Financial & Operational Stewardship

Goal 7: Standardize high-functioning, efficient, student-focused operations

Issue Summary:

Based on State and federal law, NSBSD is required to have an occupational therapist (OT) available to provide assessments and on-going support to students who qualify for occupational therapy services.

Background:

Tracey Schaeffer (Arctic OT Services, Inc.), worked with NSBSD's Tikigaq School for 3 school years. Ms. Schaeffer has school-based experience evaluating students to determine occupational therapy needs, provides remote services, and staff consultations. Ms. Schaeffer has an MOA with the Northwest Arctic Borough School District supporting the Infant Learning ELF program. Ms. Schaeffer administers assessment to support the identification of OT service needs. These services support students to increase school-based independence and access to the general education curriculum. These skills include students being able to take care of themselves and participate in school-based activities. Ms. Schaeffer will cost-share travel expenses with other MOA providers.

Length of Contract:

FY 27

Funding Source and Contract Amount:





NSBSD will fund this MOA through general fund and the VI-B Special Education Grant. The Contractor will be paid \$850/day for up to 18 days. Travel expenses are not to exceed \$4,000.00. This MOA is not to exceed \$19,300.00. There are no NSBSD benefits associated with this MOA.

Grant Funding:

This MOA is funded through the Title VI-B Special Education grant (285. 200.220.000.410) and the NSBSD general fund (100.200.220.000.410).

Compliance with BP 3311.

Ms. Schaeffer successfully worked with NSBSD supporting Tikigaq School and the Infant Learning Program. Based on Ms. Schaeffer's experience, this rate is within the acceptable range of rates paid across the state of Alaska. In support of the approval of a sole-source MOA, this contractor will require no additional training to provide services.

Recommendations:

This memo is informational only and no action is required.





North Slope Borough School District
P.O. Box 169, Utqiagvik, AK 99723



Memorandum of Agreement

Contractor: Arctic OT Services, Inc. Purchase Order #
(Tracey Schaeffer)

Address: PO Box 746 Kotzebue Alaska 99752
City State Zip

(907) 355-6025 arcticot@gmail.com
Area Code Phone # E-mail Address:

The contractor is required to hold and provide a certificate of insurance that is current for the term of the contract for the following:

X General Liability Insurance X Professional liability / Errors & Omissions X Background Check Complete

Federal ID # _____ Or Soc. Sec. #: _____ Alaska Business License # 974271

July 1, 2026 June 30, 2027 W-9 Attached X W-9 Submitted Previously
Start Date: (mmddyy) End Date: (mmddyy)

Contractor Agrees To:

Administer and complete initial occupational therapy evaluations, re-evaluations, or file reviews for student(s) with occupational therapy concerns or needs. Maintain on-going contact with student services staff, parents, and students during program implementation

Transfer occupational therapy assessment data to the ESER/IEP in the district web-based system. Participate in federally mandated pre-assessment planning meetings, 90-day transition meetings, initial evaluation meetings, re-evaluation meetings, IEP meetings on-site or via distance, as needed.

Provide occupational therapy services to Tikigaq School. Provide liaison support to the ELF Program in Kotzebue with transitioning 3 year old to school.

Support the SPED teachers with the development and interpretation of annual occupational therapy goals and objectives.

Provide training with the implementation of occupational therapy goals to sped staff (sped teacher and paraprofessionals), provide recommendations for specialized material needs, referrals to other services, written documentation for Medicaid funded materials, upon request.

Complete quarterly progress reports as required by state and federal law.

Upon request, support the SPED teacher in completing the required COSF (Child Outcome Summary Form) for pre-school students eligible for special education who also receive physical therapy services.

Coordinate with school staff to develop a schedule for dates of travel and remote service delivery. Collaborate to ensure services and student evaluations are completed on time as outlined in the IEP. Submit a travel schedule to the office of Student Service at least 3 weeks in advance for final approval and processing.

Notify the case manager and the Student Services Office if services are unable to be provided as scheduled. For planned time off, alternative services delivery

A – GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Per Board Policy 3312, MOAs for more than \$50,000 require prior School Board approval before Contractor provides any service.
2. All MOA's more than \$10K will be presented to the School Board for information purposes.
3. All associated costs, not limited to fees and reimbursable, must be included in the MOA.
4. The account to be charged must be determined and approved by the individual with budget authority prior to submission of the MOA to the Director of Finance or their designee.
5. Prior to the starting date of the contracted services and/or activities, the Contractor and the NSBSD must sign the MOA. The Contractor is not to be given a notice to proceed unless all the appropriate parties have signed the MOA.
6. The District Contact will be responsible for obtaining the contractor's signature and submitting the original MOA to the Director of Finance or their designee
7. The District Contact must approve for payment all contract invoices and receipt documentation prior to submission for payment to the Director of Finance or their designee.
8. When the MOA involves travel paid by the NSBSD; a Travel Requisition must accompany any invoice.
9. MOAs cannot be used for NSBSD employees.
10. Any NSBSD employee who authorizes services prior to the required approvals may be subject to disciplinary actions up to and including termination. (BP 4118 and 4218)

B – CONTRACTOR RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Check the MOA for contents and completeness. If the terms are agreeable, sign the agreement and return to the individual named as the Contact Person.
2. The contractor warrants that where the service requires it, the contractor will carry the required certification for the service and will provide proof of certification with the executed agreement.
3. The contractor agrees that all work products created in the course of the agreement remain the property of NSBSD.
4. The Contractor agrees to uphold confidentiality of all parties associated with this Agreement as outlined in NSBSD Board Policy, State, and Federal laws.
5. Contractor agrees to provide the necessary information to allow NSBSD to complete a district-approved background check of Contractor. Passing of the background check is contingent to the execution of this agreement. NSBSD reserves the right to request a background check at any time throughout this agreement.
6. Contractor will follow the professional code of ethics as defined by National Standards and the State of Alaska Code of Ethics for their area of certification and/or licensing.
7. In accordance with the payment terms set forth on page 1, the Contractor shall submit an invoice with the appropriate documentation (copies of airline tickets, hotel bills, etc.) to the Contact Person for approval of payment. This Purchase Order number must be on the invoice.
8. As a condition of performance, the Contractor must pay all federal, state, and local taxes incurred by the Contractor.
9. A W-9 must be on file with the NSBSD Business Office or submitted with this MOA. If no W-9 is provided, backup withholding of Federal taxes will be withheld as required under federal law, which is presently 29%.
10. The Contractor must provide proof that all required certificates of insurance listed on page 1 of this MOA are current for the term of the contract.
11. The contractor must maintain a current Alaska Business License for the term of the contract.
12. To the extent allowed by law, the Contractor shall indemnify, defend, and hold the NSBSD harmless from any liability resulting from or arising out of the acts of the Contractor in the performance of this MOA.

C – GENERAL TERMS

1. This contract may be terminated by either party with a 30-day written notice.
2. Contractor, is an independent contractor. As an independent contractor, Contractor shall have no right or authority to (a) assume or create any obligation of the District; (b) accept service of legal process addressed or intended for the District; or (c) bind the District in any manner whatsoever. Contractor shall not be treated as an employee for purposes of employment taxes, income tax withholding, or employee

benefits. Contractor is solely responsible for the payment of all applicable federal and state self-employment and income taxes (including without limitation FICA and Social Security).

3. This MOA shall be governed by Alaska law.

I HEREBY ACCEPT THIS MOA AND THE CONDITIONS/PROVISIONS CONTAINED HEREIN.

Any changes in the terms of this MOA must be on an ADDENDUM FROM prior to any services being performed. The ADDENDUM FORM must be approved by all parties.

_____ Director of Finance, NSBSD	_____ Finance Director's Signature	_____ Date (mmddyy)
_____ Superintendent, NSBSD	_____ Superintendent's Signature	_____ Date (mmddyy)
_____ Contractor	_____ Contractor's Signature	_____ Date (mmddyy)

Routing: Dir. Fin. Srvs. Supt Contractor Contact Person Admin. Srvs. Dept.

Signature: *DS Vadiveloo*

Email: david.vadiveloo@nsbsd.org

Signature: *Michael Hautala*

[Michael Hautala \(Apr 8, 2026 16:03:45 AKDT\)](#)

Email: michael.hautala@nsbsd.org