SPECIFICATIONS AND PROPOSAL FORMS

FOR

PROPANE GAS

BID NUMBER: 16M5

PRE-BID MEETING TIME/DATE/LOCATION:

11:00 A.M, local time, November 5, 2015
FCPS Main Lobby
191 South East Street
Frederick, MD 21701

BID ATTENDANCE:

Not mandatory, however, attendance is encouraged.

BID DUE TIME/DATE/LOCATION:

2:00 P.M local time, November 19, 2015
FCPS Main Lobby
191 South East Street
Frederick, MD 21701
(Parking is available at Deck #5 All Saints Street)

TENTATIVE AWARD SCHEDULED FOR BOARD MEETING:

December 9, 2015

QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS SOLICITATION SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO:

Stephen Starmer, Purchasing Manager
Kim Miskell, Assistant Purchasing Manager
Billie Laughland, Buyer Specialist
Bill Meekins, Buyer Specialist
Scott Bachtell, Buyer Specialist

NOTE: Companies must have on file an approved General Application form in order to ensure notification of future bid solicitations. Contact Robin Underwood, Vendor Maintenance Specialist, at robin.underwood@fcps.org, if you are uncertain as to your company’s registration status.

Issued: 10/29/15
Frederick County Public Schools, MD, School Year 2015-16 Calendar

August 2015
10-13 Mon-Thu New Teachers Report—New-Hire Symposium
18 Tue Teachers Report to Work: Training and Preparation
24 Mon First Day of School for Students

September 2015
07 Mon Schools Closed. Labor Day
14 Mon Schools Closed. Rosh Hashanah
23 Wed Schools Closed. Fair Day, Yom Kippur
25 Fri 2-Hour Early Dismissal for Students (Mid-Term): Teacher Work Session

October 2015
05-06 Mon-Tue High School Assessments
15 Thu 2-Hour Early Dismissal for Students: Teacher Work Session
16, 30 Fridays Schools Closed for Students: Teacher Work Days

November 2015
02 Mon Second Term Begins
20 Fri Elem Parent-Teacher Conferences in Afternoon: Elem schools dismiss 3.5 hours early; high & middle schools full day
23 Mon Elem & Middle School Parent-Teacher Conferences in Evening: Those schools open 4 hours late; high school is full day
24 Tue Elem & Middle School Parent-Teacher Conferences in Afternoon: Those schools dismiss 3.5 hours early; high school is full day
25 Wed Schools Closed: Thanksgiving Break
26-27 Thu-Fri Schools Closed: Thanksgiving and American Indian Heritage Day

December 2015
08 Tue Mid-Term
09 Wed 2-Hour Early Dismissal for Students: Teacher Work Session
23 Wed Schools Closed: Winter Break
24-25 Thu-Fri Schools Closed: Christmas Eve and Christmas Day
28-31 Mon-Thu Schools Closed: Winter Break

January 2016
01 Fri Schools Closed: New Year’s Day
11-12 Mon-Tue High School Assessments
18 Mon Schools Closed: Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day
21 Thu First Semester (Second Term) Ends
22 Fri Schools Closed for Students: Teacher Work Day
25 Mon Second Semester (Third Term) Begins

February 2016
15* Mon Schools Closed: Presidents’ Day
16 Tue Schools Closed for Students: Teacher Work Day
26 Fri 2-Hour Early Dismissal for Students (Mid-Term): Teacher Work Session

March 2016
21*-24* Mon-Thu Schools Closed: Spring Break
25 Fri Schools Closed: Good Friday
28 Mon Schools Closed: Easter Monday

April 2016
08 Third Term Ends
11 Mon Schools Closed for Students: Teacher Work Day
12 Fourth Term Begins
26 Tue Schools Closed: Primary Election Day
29 Fri 2-Hour Early Dismissal for Students: Teacher Work Session

May 2016
23-24 Mon-Tue High School Assessments
27 Fri 2-Hour Early Dismissal for Students: Teacher Work Session
30 Mon Schools Closed: Memorial Day

June 2016
20* Mon 2-Hour Early Dismissal/Last Day of School for Students: Teacher Work Session
21* Tue Last Day of School for Teachers

*Includes 7 days for snow or other emergency closings. If all days are not needed, the school year will be shortened by the number of unused days to provide 180 days for students. If more days are needed, we will make them up in this order: February 15, March 21, 22, 23 and 24, June 21 and 22.    Approved May 13, 2015
## DIRECTORY OF SCHOOLS

### ELEMENTARY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Address</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.  Ballenger Creek</td>
<td>240-236-2500 Ms. Stephanie Brown, Principal 5250 Kingsbrook Drive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Frederick, MD 21703 Fax 240-236-2501</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.  Brunswick</td>
<td>240-236-2900 Mr. Karl Williams, Principal 400 Central Avenue</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Brunswick, MD 21716 Fax 240-236-2901</td>
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<tr>
<td>3.  Carroll Manor</td>
<td>240-236-3800 Ms. Cindy Alvarado, Principal 5624 Adamstown Road</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Adamstown, MD 21710 Fax 240-236-3801</td>
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<tr>
<td>4.  Centerville</td>
<td>240-566-0100 Ms. Tracy Hilliard, Principal 3601 Carriage Hill Drive</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>Frederick, MD 21704 Fax 240-566-0101</td>
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<tr>
<td>5.  Deer Crossing</td>
<td>240-236-5900 Ms. Heather Michael, Principal 10601 Finn Drive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>New Market, MD 21774 Fax 240-236-5901</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.  Emmitsburg</td>
<td>240-236-1750 Ms. Mary Ann Wiles, Principal 300 South Seton Avenue</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Emmitsburg, MD 21727 Fax 240-236-1751</td>
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<tr>
<td>7.  Glade</td>
<td>240-236-2100 Mr. Lorcán ØlEthisir, Principal 9525 Glade Road</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Walkersville, MD 21793 Fax 240-236-2101</td>
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<tr>
<td>8.  Green Valley</td>
<td>240-236-3400 Ms. Leigh Warren, Principal 11501 Fingerboard Road</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>Monrovia, MD 21770 Fax 240-236-3401</td>
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<tr>
<td>9.  Hillcrest</td>
<td>240-236-3200 Ms. Kimberly Seiss, Principal 1285 Hillcrest Drive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Frederick, MD 21703 Fax 240-236-3201</td>
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</tbody>
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### MIDDLE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Address</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>37. Ballenger Creek</td>
<td>240-236-5700 Ms. Mita Badshah, Principal 5525 Ballenger Creek Pike</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Frederick, MD 21703 Fax 240-236-5701</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38. Brunswick</td>
<td>240-236-5400 Ms. Barbara Keeling, Principal 301 Cummings Drive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Brunswick, MD 21716 Fax 240-236-5401</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39. Walkersville</td>
<td>240-236-7200 Ms. Tracey Franklin, Principal 81 West Frederick Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Walkersville, MD 21793 Fax 240-236-7200</td>
</tr>
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KEY
* Pre-kindergarten program available
* Special education pre-kindergarten available

For other useful numbers, see next page

Middle (continued)

39. Crestwood 240-566-9000
Ms. Donna L. Clabaugh, Principal
7100 Foxcroft Drive
Frederick, MD 21703
Fax 240-566-9001

40. Governor Thomas Johnson 240-236-4900
Mr. Neal Case, Principal
1799 Schifferstadt Boulevard
Frederick, MD 21701
Fax 240-236-4901

41. Middletown 240-236-4200
Mr. Everett Warren, Principal
100 Martha Mason Street
Middletown, MD 21769
Fax 240-236-4250

42. Monocacy 240-236-4700
Mr. Brian Vasquez, Principal
8009 Opossumtown Pike
Frederick, MD 21702
Fax 240-236-4701

43. New Market 240-236-4600
Ms. Jennifer Bingman, Principal
125 West Main Street
New Market, MD 21774
Fax 240-236-4650

44. Oakdale 240-236-5500
Dr. Stephanie Ware, Principal
9840 Old National Pike
Ijamsville, MD 21754
Fax 240-236-5501

45. Thurmont 240-236-5100
Ms. Jennifer Powell, Principal
408 East Main Street
Thurmont, MD 21788
Fax 240-236-5101

46. Urbana 240-566-9200
Ms. Michelle Concepcion, Principal
3511 Pontius Court
Ijamsville, MD 21754
Fax 240-566-9201

47. Walkersville 240-236-4400
Ms. Stacey Hiltner, Principal
55 West Frederick Street
Walkersville, MD 21793
Fax 240-236-4401

48. West Frederick 240-236-4000
Mr. Frank Vetter, Principal
515 West Patrick Street
Frederick, MD 21701
Fax 240-236-4050

49. Windsor Knolls 240-236-5000
Ms. T.C. Suter, Principal
11150 Windsor Road
Ijamsville, MD 21754
Fax 240-236-5001

For other useful numbers, see next page

Other

60. Career and Technology Center 240-236-8500
Mr. Michael Concepcion, Principal
7922 Opossumtown Pike
Frederick, MD 21702
Fax 240-236-8501

61. Carroll Creek 301-663-7970
Montessori Public Charter School *
Ms. Marilyn Horan, Principal
7215 Corporate Court
Frederick, MD 21703
Fax 301-663-6107

62. Frederick Classical 240-236-1200
Charter School
Ms. Erica Cummins, Principal
8445 Spires Way, Suite CC
Frederick, MD 21701
Fax 240-236-1201

63. Frederick County Virtual School 240-236-8450
Dr. Stacey Adamiak, Principal
c/o GTJMS
1799 Schifferstadt Boulevard
Room 116
Frederick, MD 21701
Fax 240-236-8451

64. Heather Ridge 240-236-8000
Ms. Denise Flora, Principal
1445 Taney Avenue
Frederick, MD 21702
Fax 240-236-8001

65. Monocacy Valley Montessori Public Charter School *
301-668-5013
Ms. Nancy Radkiewicz, Principal
217 Dill Avenue
Frederick, MD 21701
Fax 301-668-5015

66. Rock Creek 240-236-8700
Ms. Mary Malone, Principal
191 Waverley Drive
Frederick, MD 21702
Fax 240-236-8701
A. GENERAL CONDITIONS AND INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT

1. PRE-BID MEETING
   If warranted, a Pre-Bid Meeting will be held at the date and time indicated on the cover page of this solicitation package. Unless noted otherwise, the meeting will be held in the Conference Room of the Purchasing Department, located at 191 South East Street, Frederick, Maryland 21701.

   Attendance at the Pre-Bid Meeting is not mandatory in order for your bid to be considered for an award, yet all vendors are strongly encouraged to attend.

   The agenda for this Pre-Bid Meeting will include the following: introduction of staff; description of scope of work; timeline/scheduling; budget priorities/concerns; and procurement responsibilities.

   Due to possible changes and/or additions to the specifications, bids should not be mailed until after the pre-bid meeting. All changes will be processed through addenda of this solicitation package.

2. TIME FOR RECEIVING BIDS
   Bids received prior to the time of opening will be securely kept unopened. The representative of the Superintendent, whose duty it is to open bids, will decide when the specified time has arrived. No bid received thereafter will be considered. The Superintendent or his/her representative will not be responsible for the premature opening of bids received not properly addressed or identified. Any bid may be withdrawn before the scheduled time for opening bids. After a bid has been opened, it may not be withdrawn.

   All bids received must include original signatures; no photo copies will be accepted. Unless specifically authorized, facsimile or electronic mailed bids will not be considered. Modifications by facsimile of bids already submitted will be considered if received prior to the time set for opening. No bids will be accepted via telephone.

   Bids received after the designated date and/or time will not be accepted, regardless of when they were mailed or given to a delivery carrier.

   In the event of inclement weather on the date when bids are scheduled to be opened and the FCPS Administrative Offices are closed, bids will be opened on the next business day at the same time as previously scheduled. Bids will be accepted until the scheduled time of opening on the next business day. (Often when schools are closed due to inclement weather, administrative offices remain open. When in doubt, call the Purchasing Department.)

3. RECEIPT AND OPENING OF BIDS
   Sealed bids will be opened in the FCPS Purchasing Department, 191 South East Street, Frederick, Maryland 21701, on the date and hour stated herein.

   All inner and outer envelopes and packaging, used by Fed Ex, UPS and etc., should be labeled with the Bid Number, Bid Name, and Due Date/Time. This will help assure timely receipt of bids in the Purchasing Department. Bids not received in time due to improper labeling will be considered non-responsive.

4. AUTHORIZED DEALERS
Only authorized dealers may bid on equipment requested herein. At the discretion of the Board of Education of Frederick County (herein after referred to as the Board), a certificate, executed by the manufacturer, may be requested stating that the bidder is an authorized agent of the manufacturer and is duly authorized to service and maintain the equipment.

An inspection of a bidder's place of business may be made to determine if satisfactory standards of sanitation exist or to determine product quality.

5. **PREPARATION OF BID/SIGNATURE**
   Bids must be prepared on the enclosed proposal form(s) and in accordance with the specifications herein.

   Each bid must show the full business address and telephone number of the bidder and be signed by the person or persons legally authorized to sign contracts. All correspondence concerning the bid and contract, including notice of award, copy of contract, and purchase order will be mailed or delivered to the address shown on the bid in the absence of written instructions from the bidder to the contrary.

   Bids by partnerships must be signed with the partnership name, followed by the signature and designation of the person having authority to sign. Bids by corporations must be signed with the name of the corporation, followed by the signature and designation of the person having authority to sign. When requested, satisfactory evidence of authority of the person signing will be furnished. Anyone signing the bid as an agent shall file satisfactory evidence of his/her authority to do so, if requested.

   Failure to properly sign the bid document will result in rejection of the bid.

6. **ERRORS IN BIDS/INTERPRETATION**
   Bidders or their authorized representatives are expected to fully inform themselves as to the conditions and requirements of the specifications before submitting bids. Failure to do so will be at the bidder's own risk.

   Should any bidder be in doubt as to the meaning of the specifications, or should he/she find any discrepancy or omission, he/she shall notify the Purchasing Manager for the Board. All bidders will then be notified, in writing, of clarification or additional information by means of addenda.

   If the bidder has made an error, the bidder may request in writing, to have his/her bid withdrawn. Approval of a bidder's request is not automatic and may be given only by the Purchasing Manager and/or the Board. Requests for withdrawal are usually denied, unless the bidder proves to the satisfaction of the Purchasing Manager and/or the Board that the mistake was either a scrivener's error or another type of clearly unintentional error so departing from customary and reasonable business practices as to be obvious and to legitimately and substantially impair the vendor's business.

   Neither law nor regulations make allowance for errors either of omission or commission on the part of the bidders. In case of error in multiplication of unit price when arriving at total price per line item, the unit price shall govern. If there is a discrepancy between the price written in numbers and the price written in words, the words will govern.

7. **QUOTATION**
   The bidder shall complete the information requested on the proposal form(s). Prices quoted shall not exceed the prices established under any governmental price control regulations.

   All prices shall be firm for a period of 90 days from the date of bid opening unless otherwise stated under Special Notices. THE BOARD RETAINS THE RIGHT, WITH MUTUAL CONSENT OF THE
BIDDER(S), TO UTILIZE THE BID PRICING AND APPROVED PRICE CHANGES FOR FUTURE PURCHASES FOR AS LONG AS THE BIDDER(S) MUTUALLY AGREES TO EXTEND THE PRICES.

The Board will not accept any proposal with escalator clauses, minimum order requirements or irregular features unless specifically authorized under "Special Notices". No charge will be allowed for cases, boxes, cardboard, bottles, etc. or for freight expenses. Charges for express delivery will only be allowed if requested by the Board. Empty packages, cases, boxes, cardboard, bottles, etc., must be removed by the Contractor at his/her own expense.

If the contract includes equipment, all prices must be FOB-Destination (inside delivery). The bidder(s) are encouraged to bid only one product per line item that most nearly meets the specifications. If the bidder believes that there is more than one product available, a limit of two offers will be considered for each line item.

If two or more particular brands, models, or makes are listed in the specifications (under Base and Alternate Bids) and the bidder has not indicated in the bid which of the two or more brands, models, etc., is being bid, it shall be understood that the Board may require the Contractor to furnish whichever is preferred by the Board.

8. DISCOUNTS
   The Board reserves the right to consider discounts in evaluating the bid. The bidder should calculate all discounts other than prompt payment.

9. BIDS FOR ALL OR PART
   A bidder may restrict his/her bid to be considered in the aggregate by so stating, but should name a unit price on each item bid upon. Any bid, which the bidder names a total price for all the items without quoting a price on each and every separate item, may be considered non-responsive. Unless a bidder has restricted his/her bid, award may be made to the bidder submitting the lowest aggregate bid on a group of items of a similar nature or on an individual item basis, or any other basis deemed to be in the best interest of the Board.

10. STANDARD OF QUALITY, "OR EQUAL CLAUSES", MATERIALS SUBSTITUTIONS
    Unless otherwise specified, all materials used for the manufacturer or construction of any work covered by this bid shall be new and the workmanship shall be of the highest quality. Any material or article, which will perform adequately the duties imposed by the general design, will be considered equal and satisfactory. This is providing the material or article so proposed is of equal substance of function in the Purchasing Manager's opinion. THE BRAND SPECIFIED IS USED ONLY TO ESTABLISH A QUALITY LEVEL. EQUIVALENT ITEMS WILL BE ACCEPTED UNLESS SPECIFICALLY NOTED OTHERWISE, UNDER SPECIAL NOTICES.

    In the absence of any statement to the contrary by the bidder, the bid will be interpreted as being the exact brand and/or qualities, etc., enumerated in the detailed specifications, whenever the specifications indicate a product of a particular manufacturer, model or brand.

    If for any reason the Contractor cannot guarantee his/her work using a material or equipment which has been specified, he/she shall so notify the Board in writing at least seven days in advance of the bid opening, giving reasons, together with the name and data concerning substitute products proposed. Requests for substitutions must be accompanied by documentary proof of equality and delivery from suppliers of both specified and proposed equipment and materials. A statement of any credit or extra cost involved shall also be included with the request.
Requests for approval of substitutions may not be considered a cause for delay in any phase of the work to be accomplished. The Board's decision will be the final authority in all cases.

11. **TAXES**
   No charge will be allowed for federal, state, or municipal sales and excise taxes, from which the Board is exempt. The price shall be net and shall not include the amount of any such tax. Exemption certificates, if required by the vendor, will be furnished upon request.

12. **SPECIFICATIONS AND/OR CATALOGUE CUTS**
   Bidders must submit description literature even though they believe their product does meet the specification. This description material will facilitate the evaluation and detailed comparison of the product bid and the specified item. Failure to submit such detailed data as required and/or at the time designated by the Purchasing Department shall be cause for rejection of that item.

   Full illustrations and specifications on each item offered (if other than the specified item) must accompany the bid proposal and be contained in a brochure properly bound and labeled. These cuts and specifications are to be arranged and labeled in numerical sequence according to item number, and attached on separate pages. The cover and brochure shall contain:

   A. Vendor's name, address, and phone number
   B. Bid number
   C. Bid opening date

13. **SAMPLES**
   The Purchasing Department for testing and evaluation purposes may request samples. Failure to submit samples as required at the time designated by the Purchasing Department shall be cause for rejection of that item.

   All samples must be delivered with all charges prepaid to the FCPS, Purchasing Department, 191 South East Street, Frederick, Maryland 21701, plainly marked to indicate make/model, item number, name of bidder, bid name and number, date of bid opening, and must be accompanied by instructions as to the return thereof.

   Accepted samples may be retained during the life of the contract. The right is reserved to retain any sample submitted with bids whenever deemed necessary to do so for the purposes of examination and testing. The Board reserves the right to use all samples in any manner which may best serve the final determination of the successful bidder, even if said examination and testing results in damage to or destruction of the sample.

   The vendor shall remove samples that are not retained within two weeks upon notification of Award/Non-Award letter by the Board. Unless the samples, when received by the Purchasing Department, are accompanied with instructions as to their return, and include sufficient funds to defray shipping charges or provide for return by freight or express on a collect basis, samples shall become the property of the Board. Samples not removed within this two-week period shall be disposed at the discretion of the Purchasing Department. Disposal may include retention and use by the Board without compensation to the bidder or person furnishing the samples.

14. **BID BOND**
   Bid bonds are not required at this time except under special circumstances. See the Special Notices section of the bid document, if applicable.
15. PERFORMANCE AND PAYMENT BONDS

Performance and payment bonds are not required on all bids. See the Special Notices section of the bid document, if applicable.

If applicable, the successful bidder(s) may be required to submit either one or both of the following two bonds to the Purchasing Department ten calendar days of receipt of the Notice of Award and in accordance with the terms stated below:

A. **Performance Bond** in the amount of 100% of the contract price covering faithful performance of the contract; and

B. **Payment Bond** in the amount of 100% of the contract price as security for the payment of all persons performing labor and furnishing materials in connection therewith.

The cost of the performance bond and payment bonds will be borne by the bidder(s) in all instances.

Certified checks in the amounts stated above will be accepted in lieu of the performance bond and payment bond only upon prior approval of the Purchasing Manager. If checks are approved for acceptance in lieu of either bond, they should be in the same amount as these bonds; be separate checks; and should clearly designate the purpose - i.e., performance or payment.

Certified checks, if submitted, will be deposited in the Board's bank account(s). Upon successful completion of the contract, check(s) will be drawn upon the Board's bank account(s) for the full amounts of both certified checks.

Bonds must be approved by surety companies which are named in the most current Circular 570 "Surety Companies Acceptable on Federal Bonds" as issued by the U.S. Treasury, Bureau of Government Finance Operations, Division of Banking and Cash Management, Washington, D.C. 20111. Maryland Code 21-102 – A certificate of authority, or certified copy of a certificate of authority, issued by the Commissioner to a surety insurer shall be accepted as evidence of qualification to become sole surety on a bond, undertaking, recognizance, or other obligation required or allowed by law, or in the charter, ordinances, rules, or regulations of a municipal corporation, board, organization, court, judge, or public officer, without further proof or qualification regarding solvency, credit, or financial sufficiency to act as a surety or bidders must use bonding companies rated by A.M. Best Company of at least A-/VIII.

If a bonding company is used that is not on the most current Circular 570, the vendor will be contacted to obtain a bond from an approved surety company and re-submit it to the Purchasing Department within ten working days after contact award.

Upon receipt and approval of the performance bond and payment bond or the certified checks, an official purchase order will be issued and the contract initiated.

16. AWARDS OR REJECTION OF BIDS

In general, it is the intention of the Board to make awards to bidders submitting the lowest bid prices provided; (a) all the terms of the invitation have been met; (b) the prices are reasonable; and (c) it is in the best interest of the Board to accept them.

The Board reserves the right to determine completeness and/or timeliness of bids, to reject any or all bids in whole or in part, to make partial awards, to waive any irregularity in any quotation, to increase or
decrease quantities if quantities are listed in the bid, to reject any bid that shows any omissions, alterations of form, additions not called for, conditions, or alternate proposals, and to make any such award as is deemed to be in its best interest.

Bidders may be required, before the awarding of a contract, to show to the complete satisfaction of the Board, that they have the necessary facilities, ability and financial resources to execute the work in a satisfactory manner, and within the time specified. Bidders may demonstrate that they have the necessary experience, history and references which will assure the Board of their qualifications for executing the work. (A detailed audited financial statement may be required.)

Bidders are required, as a part of their bid submission, to provide information regarding their firm’s status as a Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) and the diversity of their firm’s board of directors and company officers. Bidders also are required, as a part of their bid submission, to provide a plan for the utilization of minority Contractors, subcontractors or suppliers in executing the contract, if their firm receives an award.

The Board reserves the right to reject the bid of a bidder who has, in the opinion of the Board, previously failed to perform properly in contracts of similar nature, or the bid of a bidder who investigation shows is not in a position to perform the contract.

If during the life of the contract, a bidder fails to comply with the terms of the contract, or a product does not meet specifications, the Board retains the right to re-award the item to another bidder, as long as that bidder mutually agrees to the award.

The Board reserves the right to award the bid within 90 days from the date of the bid opening unless a different time period is stated in the bid document. Unless stated otherwise under "Special Notices", the reluctant Contractor(s) will be awarded by line item or in the aggregate, whichever is in the best interest of the Board.

If during the life of the contract, a bidder fails to comply with the terms of the contract, the Board retains the right to re-award the item to another bidder, as long as that bidder mutually agrees to the award.

The Board reserves the right to award the bid within 90 days from the date of the bid opening unless a different time period is stated in the bid document. Unless stated otherwise under "Special Notices", the reluctant Contractor(s) will be awarded by line item or in the aggregate, whichever is in the best interest of the Board.

In the event of tie bids where all other factors such as past performance are considered comparable, the awards shall be made to the Frederick County based vendor; the out-of-county but Maryland based vendor; and the out-of-state based vendor, in that order of preference.

17. OBJECTION TO AWARD RECOMMENDATION
Any vendor objecting to the Purchasing Manager's recommendation for award may protest the Purchasing Manager's action by formally notifying, in writing, to the Chief Financial Officer. The bidder's written protest must be received in the Purchasing Department at least five working days prior to the Board meeting for which the bid award is scheduled. It is the bidder's responsibility to ascertain the date and time of the pertinent Board meeting. The protest must specifically and fully identify the bidder's objection(s); the legal basis for the objection including the itemization of laws, regulations, policies, or bid procedures, etc., which have been allegedly violated; a statement of all facts which support the bidder's position; a copy of all documents which are relevant or upon the bidder is relying; and a statement as to the relief sought by the bidder.

18. OBJECTION TO AWARD
Any objections to an award made by the Board must be filed, in writing, to the Chief Financial Officer and received with ten days following the date of the award by the Board. The objection must specifically and fully identify the vendor's objections and any supporting legal or procedural authority.

19. CONTRACT
The form of contract may be noted in the Special Notices section of this bid solicitation or a copy may be
included in this request for bids. If not, the following applies. When the Board accepts a bid and awards a contract, the purchase order/s, and any agreed upon schedules, addenda, shop drawings, and other documents associated with the bid solicitation/ submission/ award process will constitute the contract. Notification of the contract award will be made by letter after approval by the Board.

Subsequently, no amendment, modification or change to the Contract shall be effective unless such change is in writing and signed by authorized representatives of FCPS and the vendor. Changes may not significantly alter the original scope of the agreement.

20. MULTI-YEAR CONTRACT
Those contracts that require funding appropriation for more than one fiscal year automatically terminate if money sufficient for the continued performance is not appropriated for any fiscal year. The date of termination is the last day of the fiscal year for which money was last appropriated, or the date provided in the termination clause of the procurement contract, whichever is earlier.

21. SUBCONTRACTORS
The Contractor shall give his/her personal attention constantly to the faithful execution of this contract. The Contractor shall keep the same under his/her own control and shall not assign or sublet by Power of Attorney or otherwise the work or any part thereof without the previous consent of the Purchasing Department. He/she may be required to submit to the Purchasing Department, in writing, the name of each subcontractor he/she intends to employ, the portion of the material to be furnished, his/her place of business, and any such information as may be required in order to know whether such subcontractor is reputable and reliable and able to furnish satisfactorily the material as called for in the specifications.

The Contractor shall not legally or equitably assign any of the funds payable under the contract or its claim thereto, unless by and with the consent of the Purchasing Department.

The Contractor shall have the same provisions inserted in all subcontracts relative to the terms of the General Conditions and other contract documents. Nothing contained in this contract shall create any contractual relations between any subcontractor and the Board.

The Board reserves the right to approve or disapprove all subcontractors to be employed on a project. The Board further reserves the right to approve or disapprove a change of subcontractor once an initial subcontractor has been approved. Any increased cost associated with the change of a subcontractor shall be the full obligation and responsibility of the Contractor.

22. STUDENT/STAFF CONFIDENTIALITY
Under no circumstances may any vendor/contractor/provider or consultant release, disclose, sell or otherwise use Frederick County Public Schools’ student names, addresses, or any other information related to students or staff of Frederick County Public Schools and may only use this information for purposes required under any contract/agreement or memorandum of understanding.

23. EMPLOYEES’ RESPONSIBILITIES
All Contractors and subcontractors must abide by Board policies and regulations while working on school property. The Board desires to maintain a safe, healthy, and productive environment free of alcohol and drugs. The Board endorses the provisions of Public Law 100-690, Title V, Subtitle D (Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988) and Public Law 101-226 (The Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989) and regulations promulgated there under and establishes a drug-free and alcohol-free workplace and school system.

Maryland State Law (COMAR 13A.02.04) provides that each local school system is required to maintain
a tobacco-free school environment.

Be advised that individuals who are registered sex offenders are not eligible to work on any FCPS’ project. The Contractor must initially check the Maryland Department of Public Safety & Correctional Services’ MARYLAND SEX OFFENDER REGISTRY and search for the name of any employee to be assigned to work on this project. This applies to subcontractors and material/equipment suppliers as well. For projects lasting more than a few months, the Contractor shall periodically re-check the names of workers against the registry to ensure ongoing compliance. In the event that a registered sex offender is discovered to be working on a FCPS project, whether through employment by the prime Contractor, subcontractor or equipment or material supplier, FCPS will notify the site superintendent to immediately remove the individual from the premises and permanently terminate his work assignment. FCPS may terminate this contract at no additional costs, as a result if the Contractor is unable to demonstrate he has exercised care and diligence in the past in checking the Maryland registry.

FCPS contract shall provide that a contractor or subcontractor for the school may not knowingly assign an employee to work on school premises with direct, unsupervised, and uncontrolled access to children, if the employee has been convicted of a crime identified as a crime of violence.

An offense under § 3-307 or § 3-308 of the Criminal Law Article or an offense under the laws of another state that would constitute a violation of § 3-307 or § 3-308 of the Criminal Law Article if committed in the state.

A crime of violence as defined in § 14-101 of the Criminal Law Article, or an offense under the laws of another state that would be a violation of § 14-101 of the Criminal Law Article if committed in this state.

24. DELIVERY
Delivery may be required to be made to the receiving platform of the FCPS Warehouse. Where the specifications require direct delivery to schools, the items must be placed at a point within the building. The weight, count, measure, etc., will be determined at the points of delivery. The Contractor will be required to furnish proof of delivery in every instance. Delivery receipts indicating only the number and weight of cartons received will not constitute “proof” of delivery in the event of a dispute.

Bulk materials are to be placed on skids or pallets on the receiving platform of the Warehouse as directed by the receiving clerk. No help for unloading will be provided by the Board. Suppliers shall notify their truckers accordingly. All materials, equipment, and supplies must be securely packed in uniform containers, adequately marked as to the contents and receiving point, and delivered without damage or breakage.

Deliveries shall be made between the hours of 8:30 A.M. and 3:00 P.M. on weekdays other than Saturdays, Sundays, school holidays, or legal holidays (see School Calendar Closings enclosed).

25. INSTALLATION/ASSEMBLY
The vendor must include in the unit price for each item, all charges for installation/assembly. Exceptions to this will be accepted only if so noted under Special Notices or if the nature of the item precludes the necessity for installation/assembly. If certain items do not require installation/assembly, the vendor must note this next to the item on the proposal form.

Equipment shall be installed/assembled only by those having necessary qualifications, facilities, and experience to execute work properly. The Contractor at no expense to the Board shall furnish all labor and materials necessary for the installation/assembly of the equipment designated. All crating and packing material shall be removed from the site by the vendor.
The equipment shall be set in place, leveled, and accommodated to the building construction, as necessary, for a neat and proper installation. The equipment shall be complete in every detail, ready for its intended use except as otherwise specified or indicated.

Installation/assembly includes any necessary accessory cables, input lines, test run, and check out, etc. This does not include actual connections to electrical lines and/or plumbing that may require a licensed electrician and/or plumber.

26. INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS
In the event the vendor as part of the contract is responsible for installation, the vendor will be responsible for hiring personnel to perform such installation at its own costs. Such personnel will be considered employees of the vendor and are under his/her control and direction. The vendor will maintain Worker's Compensation in the statutory amount to cover such employees performing such installation work in accordance with the laws of the state in which the work of this contract is to be performed. The vendor shall also maintain Employee's Liability Insurance with limits of at least $100,000 for each accident, $100,000 to cover disease (each employee) with a disease policy limit of $500,000, for injuries excluded under the Worker's Compensation Act.

Prior to the commencement of any installation work by the vendor, the vendor will be required to submit a certificate of insurance evidencing Worker's Compensation and Employer's Liability Insurance in the amounts required above. In addition this certificate will indicate the amounts of insurance carried by the vendor of the following types: COMMERCIAL GENERAL LIABILITY INSURANCE, AUTOMOBILE LIABILITY INSURANCE, EXCESS LIABILITY INSURANCE, and any other insurance coverage maintained by the vendor.

If a sub-Contractor will perform any aspect of the work, the Contractor shall either (1) require each of his/her sub-Contractors to procure and to maintain during the life of the sub-contract liability insurance of the type and in the same amounts as listed above, or (2) insure the activities of the subcontractor in his/her own policy. It will be the responsibility of the Contractor to ensure that all subcontractors comply with this provision, and the Contractor will indemnify and hold harmless the Board for failure of any subcontractor to comply with this provision.

The certificate of insurance will state that such insurance is in force and cannot be cancelled or released except upon 30 days prior written notice to the Board.

All contracts of insurance shall specifically name the Board and the Frederick County Government as additional insured parties, other than Worker’s Compensation Insurance policy. The Contractor's insurance shall be primary and non-contributory to any insurance carried by the Board of Education. Waiver of subrogation applies to the above policies in favor of the certificate holder. Insurance companies must be AM Best Company rated at least A-/XIII.

27. STORAGE OF EQUIPMENT
If in cases of school construction, the school or building is not ready to receive equipment on the estimated delivery date outlined in these specifications, the successful vendor(s) shall provide equitable warehouse space to receive equipment until such time the building is completed and equipment can be received.

Suitable warehouse space should be obtained by the successful vendor(s) within a one hundred-mile radius of the Board. Bidders shall state in their bid the location of their warehouse facilities. The Purchasing Department shall have the authority to inspect the warehouse prior to the awarding of bids.
In the event temporary warehouse facilities are needed, the Board will not be responsible for the equipment. The successful vendor(s) and/or the warehouse facility must provide adequate insurance.

If warehousing is not feasible, the vendor is responsible for working with their suppliers and/or manufacturers to adjust the new delivery schedule at no additional cost to the Board.

28. EXPEDITING DELIVERY/LIQUIDATED DAMAGES
A date for delivery and/or installation/assembly shall be stated in the bid specifications. The vendor will be notified when these dates have not been met. An additional 15 calendar days will be given to comply. After this grace period, the appropriate bonding company, if applicable, will be notified in writing with a copy sent to the vendor. If bonds are not required, liquidated damages may be assessed at the rate of $150 dollars per calendar day until delivery and/or installation/assembly is complete and satisfactory. Other rates may be set in lieu of or in addition to the amount stated above. If applicable, this information will be provided under Special Notices.

Requests for extension of completion time due to strikes, lack of materials, or any other causes over which the Contractor has no control will be reviewed after written application is made to the Purchasing Department. Requests must occur immediately upon occurrence of conditions for a time extension to be granted. Extensions are not guaranteed.

29. HEALTH AND SAFETY STANDARDS
When applicable, all machinery/equipment must meet OSHA-MOSHA requirements as to the safety of the operation of the equipment. All required safety devices shall be included in the price(s) bid.

When applicable, kitchen equipment and supplies must meet Maryland State Health Department, National Sanitation Foundation (NSF) and Frederick County Health Department requirements.

All construction activities must be conducted in strict compliance with OSHA/MOSHA requirements.

Equipment offered which fails to comply with any applicable section of the National Electrical Code, or is not U.L. Listed (where U.L. Listings have been established for that type of device) shall be rejected.

The Contractor and subcontractors are required to comply with all provisions of the Access to Information about Hazardous and Toxic Substances Act, a part of the Maryland Occupational Safety and Health Law.

30. ASBESTOS
The Contractor is responsible to report to the Board any asbestos material or suspected material found or uncovered that is not part of the scope of the project. In addition, he/she may not introduce new asbestos or asbestos bearing materials into the site.

It is the responsibility of the Contractor to comply with all Municipal, State, and Federal EPA regulations and laws when handling or disposing of asbestos materials.

If the Contractor intentionally endangers or jeopardizes the health of any building/school occupant through mishandling of hazardous material, the Contractor will be held liable for such action.

31. INSPECTIONS AND CORRECTION OF WORK
All work, all materials, whether incorporated into the work or not, all processes of manufacture, and all methods of construction shall be at all times and places subject to the inspection of the Board, whose
representatives shall be the final judge of the quality and suitability. Should these fail to meet this approval they shall be forthwith reconstructed, made good, replaced and/or covered, as the case may be, by the Contractor at his/her own expense. Rejected material shall be removed immediately from the site. If, in the opinion of the Board, it is undesirable to replace any defective or damaged materials or to reconstruct or correct any portion of the work injured or not performed in accordance with the contract documents, the compensation to be paid to the Contractor hereunder shall be reduced by such amount as in the judgment of the Board shall be equitable.

The Board's representative shall at all times have access to the work wherever it is in preparation he Contractor shall provide proper facilities for such access.

If the specifications, laws, ordinances, or any public authority require any work to be specially tested or approved, the Contractor shall give the Board timely notice of its readiness for observations. If the inspection is by another authority, the Contractor shall notify the Board of the date fixed for such inspection and shall use the required Certificate of Inspection.

If any work should be covered up without approval or consent of the Board it must, if required, be uncovered for examination at the Contractor's expense. The Board may order re-examination of questioned work and, if so ordered, the Contractor must uncover the work. If such work is found not to be in accordance with the contract documents, the Contractor shall pay such cost. If another Contractor employed by the Board caused the defect in the work, the Board shall pay such cost and recover the charges from the other Contractor.

32. DAMAGES/RESPONSIBILITIES FOR ITEMS TENDERED

The vendors shall be held responsible for and shall be required to make good, at their own expense, any or all damages done or caused by them or their workers in the execution of the contract.

The vendors shall be responsible for the items covered by this contract until they are delivered and/or installed/assembled at the designated place of delivery.

33. GUARANTEE

Neither the final certificate of payment nor any provisions in the contract documents nor partial or entire occupancy of the premises by the Board shall constitute an acceptance of work not done in accordance with the contract documents or relieve the Contractor of liability in respect to any express warranties or responsibilities for faulty materials or workmanship.

The Contractor shall also GUARANTEE THE MATERIALS, WORKMANSHIP, AND LABOR FOR ANY NECESSARY REPAIRS ON ALL STUDENT CHAIRS, STUDENT DESKS, TABLET ARM CHAIRS, ALL PURPOSE TABLES, TEACHER'S CHAIRS, AND TEACHER'S DESKS FURNISHED BY HIM/HER FOR A PERIOD OF TEN YEARS FROM THE DATE OF ACCEPTANCE OF THE ITEMS DELIVERED AND INSTALLED. FURNITURE GLIDES AND CASTERS SHALL BE PROVIDED FREE OF CHARGE FOR A PERIOD OF ONE YEAR ONLY FROM THE DATE OF ACCEPTANCE. This guarantee shall be against all defects due to the use of materials and/or workmanship that are inferior, defective, or not in accordance with the specifications.

On all other items, the Contractor shall guarantee the material and workmanship on all services, equipment, materials, supplies, and labor furnished by him for a period of one year from the date of acceptance, unless a longer or shorter period of time is stated elsewhere in the specifications.

If, within the guarantee period, any defects or signs of deterioration are noted, the Contractor, at his/her expense, shall correct the condition or he/she shall replace the part or entire unit of work/equipment to
the complete satisfaction of the Board. These repairs, replacements, or adjustments shall be made only at such times as will be designated by the Board as least detrimental to the instructional programs.

Should the Contractor fail to comply with the terms of this guarantee, the Board may have such work performed, as it deems necessary to fulfill the guarantee, charging the cost to the Contractor.

34. COMPLIANCE TO SPECIFICATIONS
The Board shall not be responsible to provide personnel, testing facilities, or other resources necessary to search out substitutions and deviations in bid proposals which are unclear through the nebulous terms such as "comparable", or blanket statements of deviation such as "our standard design, construction, hardware, finishes, etc." It shall be the responsibility of the bidder to submit a clear and concise bid proposal wherein each substitution and deviation is identified and described.

The bidder shall, upon request and with no cost to the Board, furnish documents, independent laboratory tests reports, and/or similar materials of proof to substantiate that the substitutions and deviations of the items he/she proposes to furnish do not prevent these items from being truly and factually equal to or exceeding that which is specified.

No substitutions or deviations in equipment will be permitted following the award of the contract unless "cause and effect" is presented in writing and approved by the Purchasing Department.

The cost of testing a representative sample of an order or shipment for acceptance and compliance with specifications shall be borne by the Board. If the order or shipment is rejected for failure to meet the requirements of the specifications or purchase description, the cost of testing will be charged to the vendor.

35. BILLING AND PAYMENT
The Contractor shall furnish satisfactory bills, payrolls and vouchers covering all items of cost. When requested, they shall give representatives of the Board access to accounts relating thereto.

Partial payments may be made at specific intervals depending upon the length and dollar value of the project. When partial payments are requested, the invoice or requisition for payment should be sent to the Finance Department for payment. Invoices for partial payments should show only the work performed and/or materials/equipment supplied and on site.

Payments will be made by FCPS check, single use credit account or credit card. Credit card statements with level three data are preferred. Bidders are prohibited from charging additional costs or fees from their bid price to process such orders.

If applicable, an amount of 10% from each application for payment will be withheld until final acceptance of the project by the Board. This amount may cover possible unsatisfactory performance or other damages.

Invoices shall be submitted to:
accounts.payable@FCPS.org
Invoices and packing slips must contain the following information:
- Bid Number
- Purchase Order Number
- Item Number (if applicable)
- Quantity (if applicable)
- Brief Description of Item or Work Performed
- Unit Price Bid/Partial Payment Amount
- Extended Total for Each Item
- Grand Total
- Public School Construction Number (PSC) (if applicable)

36. TERMINATION FOR DEFAULT
When the vendor has not performed or has unsatisfactorily performed the contract, payment shall be withheld at the discretion of FCPS. FCPS may, by written notice of default to the Contractor, terminate the whole or any part of the contract in any of the following circumstances:

A. If the Contractor fails to perform the services or provide the products within the time and manner specific herein or any extension thereof, or:

B. If the Contractor fails to perform any of the provisions of this contract, or fails to make progress as to endanger performance of this contract, in accordance with its terms and in either of these two circumstances does not cure such failure within a period of ten calendar days (or longer as authorized by the purchasing manager) after receipt of written notice from the Purchasing Manager of such failure, or:

C. If the Contractor willfully attempts to perform the services other than specified as to coverage, limits, protections, and quality or otherwise, without specified authorization in the form of contract amendment, or:

D. If a determination is made by FCPS that the obtaining of the contract was influenced by an employee FCPS having received a gratuity, or a promise therefore, in any way or form.

In the event FCPS terminates the contract is whole or in part, FCPS may procure such products and services, and in such manner as the Purchasing Manager deems appropriate, products and services similar to those so terminated, and the Contractor shall be liable to FCPS for any excess cost for such similar services provided that the Contractor shall continue the performance of the contract to the extent not terminated.

If, after notice of termination of this contract under provisions of this clause, it is determined for any reason that the Contractor was not in default under the provisions of this clause, or that the default was excusable under the provisions of this clause, the rights and obligations of the parties shall be the same as if the notice of termination had been issued pursuant to a termination for convenience.

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37. TERMINATION FOR CONVENIENCE
The contract may be terminated by FCPS in accordance with this clause in whole, or from time to time in part, whenever FCPS shall determine that such termination is in the best interest of FCPS. Written notice shall be given at least 60 days in advance. FCPS will pay for all services in accordance with contract pricing up to the date of the termination. However, the Contractor shall not be reimbursed for any anticipatory profits that have not been earned up to the date of termination.

38. HOLD HARMLESS
It is understood that firms providing quotes for this project shall defend and hold harmless the Board and its representatives from all suits, actions, or claims of any kind brought about as a result of any injuries or damages sustained by person(s) or property during the performance of this contract.

39. PUBLIC INFORMATION ACT NOTICE
Bidders should give specific attention to the identification of those portions of their bids, which they deem to be confidential, or to contain proprietary information or trade secrets. Bidders should provide justification why such material, upon request, should not be disclosed by the School System under the Maryland Public Information Act, State Government Article, Section 10-611 through 628, Annotated Code of Maryland.

40. CONTRACT DISPUTE
Any dispute resulting from a question or fact arising under this contract shall be decided by the FCPS’ Contract Administrator and the Purchasing Manager who will reduce their decision to writing and furnish a copy thereof to the Contractor. This decision shall be final and conclusive unless within 30 days the Contractor furnishes to the Contract Administrator and Purchasing Manager a written appeal addressed to the Board. The local Board has the right to hear appeals as provided by Maryland law.

The Board or duly authorized representative will review the appeal for the determination of such appeal and their finding shall be final and conclusive. Exceptions are decisions determined by a court of competent jurisdiction to have been fraudulent, capricious, arbitrary, or so grossly erroneous as to imply bad faith, or not supported by evidence. In connection with any appeal preceding under this clause the Contractor will be afforded an opportunity to be heard and to offer evidence in support of his appeal. Pending final decision of a dispute, the Contractor shall proceed diligently with the performance of the contract and in strict accordance with the FCPS staff’s decision.

This clause does not preclude consideration of laws questioned in connection with the decision provided for above.

41. TECHNOLOGY-BASED INSTRUCTIONAL PRODUCTS
All technology-based instructional products must meet technical standards for accessibility established in federal Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act.

42. FORCE MAJEURE
Force Majeure is defined as an occurrence beyond the control of the affected party and not avoidable by reason of diligence. It includes the acts of nature, war, riots, strikes, fire, floods, epidemics, or other similar occurrences. If either party is delayed by force majeure, said party shall provide written notification to the other within 48 hours. Delays shall cease as soon as practicable and written notification of same provided. The time of contract completion may be extended by contract modification, for a period of time equal to that delay caused under this condition. FCPS may also consider requests for price increase for raw materials that are directly attributable to the cause of delay. FCPS reserves the right to cancel the contract and/or purchase materials, equipment or services from the
best available source during the time of force majeure, and Contractor shall have no recourse against FCPS. Further, except for payment of sums due, neither party shall be liable to the other or deemed in default under this contract, if and to the extent that such party’s performance of this contract is prevented by reason of force majeure as defined herein.

43. ASSIGNMENT
The Award Bidder shall not assign or transfer the Award Bidder’s interest or obligation under this Agreement to any third party, without the prior written consent of the Board. Nothing herein shall be construed to create any personal or individual liability upon any employee, officer, elected official of the Board, nor shall this Agreement be construed to create any rights hereunder in any person or entity other than the parties to this Agreement.

44. GOVERNING LAW AND VENUE
The bid shall be construed in accordance with, and interpreted under, the laws of the State of Maryland. Any lawsuits arising out of such bid shall be filed in the appropriate State Court located in Baltimore County, Maryland.
B. **SPECIAL NOTICES**

1. **OTHER AGENCIES ELIGIBLE TO PURCHASE FROM THIS CONTRACT**
   The following agency/ies have expressed an intention to utilize this contract after it is awarded:

   ______________Frederick Community College

   ______________Various agencies under the auspices of the Frederick County Government

   ______________Others: _____________________________________________________

   Additionally, FCPS reserves the right to extend the opportunity to utilize this contract to any and all other public agencies and school districts in Maryland. Non-public schools may participate under any contracts for goods or commodities in Maryland. Participation by agencies not named above and requested after the bid is awarded must be mutually agreed upon in writing and in advance by the FCPS Purchasing Department, after consulting with the contract administrator, and the contractor.

   By agreeing to extend the contract to other agencies, the contractor reaffirms and warrants his original commitment to FCPS so that afterwards all items and services shall continue to conform to the requirements and conditions of the original agreement for its duration. Agencies who utilize the contract agree to notify FCPS Purchasing Department of any significant experiences, problems or issues which may, or may have the potential to, affect our administration of this contract.

   FCPS assumes no obligation on behalf of any other agency and shall be held harmless if either party is damaged due to the agency or contractors’ failure to become informed of, or comply with, any provision or pricing under this agreement. All purchase orders and billing will be transacted between the contractor and the public agency.

2. **REMOVAL FROM BIDDER’S LIST**
   A company is solely responsible for obtaining, completing, and returning the General Application form; this is especially important where notification of the bid was obtained through advertisement, a bidder was informed by a sub-contractor, manufacturer, etc. Contact Robin Underwood, Vendor Maintenance Specialist, by e-mail: robin.underwood@fcps.org to check the status of registration. The General Application is available on the FCPS website at: www.fcps.org/purchasing. The company is responsible for proper identification of bid categories on the form and is encouraged to contact a buyer in the Purchasing Department if he/she has questions. Applications are valid for a three year period. Therefore, it is imperative that the company notifies FCPS Purchasing Department of all address changes.

   Only companies with an approved FCPS General Application, on file, will automatically receive notifications of bid solicitations. Staff will review the mailing list of the previous bid for similar products/services. All registered companies will be sent a one-page notification of bid advising interested companies to visit the FCPS website in order to obtain a complete bid solicitation package.

   FCPS will not be held responsible for a company’s failure to become and remain a registered bidder, to identify appropriate bid categories on the registration form, or for failure to notify the Purchasing Department of an address change, to accomplish these things in a timely manner. The Bidder’s Mailing List is the only reliable means of notification of bids to individual companies.

   Bidders with a repeated history of not bidding in a specific category may be removed from the Bidder’s Mailing List for that category at the discretion of the Purchasing Manager.
3. **AVAILABILITY OF BID TABULATIONS/BID AWARD**  
Final award and a copy of the bid tabulation will be posted on the FCPS website: [www.fcps.org/bidlist](http://www.fcps.org/bidlist) after BOE approval.

4. **PROPOSAL SUBMISSION**  
a. Due to possible changes and/or additions to the solicitation package, FCPS encourages bidders not to submit their proposal until after the date questions are too answered by. All changes will be processed through appropriate addenda.

b. The following items must be included in submission:  
   1. Proposal pages completely and accurately filled out and signed.
   2. “Statutory Affidavit and Non-Collusion Certification” form completed and signed.
   3. “Certification of Compliance” form completed and signed.

c. All inner and outer envelopes and packaging, used by Fed Ex, Ups and etc., should be labeled with the Bid Number, Bid Name, and Due Date/Time. This will help assure timely receipt of proposals in the Purchasing Department. Bids not received in time due to improper labeling will be considered non-responsive.

d. FCPS will accept all bid responses, however, only companies approved and qualified by FCPS’ Purchasing Department will be considered for contract award. The Large Construction Bidders Application is available on the FCPS website at: [www.fcps.org/purchasing](http://www.fcps.org/purchasing). Applications are valid for a three year period. Completed applications may be submitted separately or included in the bid response. Pre-qualification prior to bid due date is strongly encouraged.

5. **CONTRACT ADMINISTRATION**  
a. The contract will be administered by Charles Dalphon, Energy/Utility Services Coordinator. Please refer all questions regarding these specifications to Billie Laughland at billie.laughland@fcps.org, with the bid name and number in the subject.

b. When a vendor other than the awarded vendor(s) is used, the contract administrator or the originator of the requisition is required to submit written justification to the Purchasing Department for review. A copy of the written justification will be retained with the purchase order or in the contract file.

c. Additional duties and responsibilities of the contract administrator are defined in Purchasing Regulation #200-7.

6. **PRICING**  
a. All prices shall remain firm through the initial contract period.

b. FCPS expects all vendors to provide year over year cost reductions recommendations.

c. Price decreases are acceptable at any time, need not be verifiable, and are required should the contractor/producer/processor/manufacturer experience a decrease in costs associated with the execution of the contract.

d. Price adjustments from the contractor/producer/processor/manufacturer for any/all items may be considered at renewal. The request is subject to approval by the Contracting Officer. The request must be submitted in writing at least 60 days prior to the renewal term and shall be accompanied by supporting documentation.
e. Should the awarded vendor, at any time during the life of the contract, sell materials of similar quality to another customer, or advertise special discounts or sales, at a price below those quoted within the contract, the lowest discounted prices shall be offered to FCPS.

7. **SCOPE**  
These specifications are intended to cover the supply and delivery of propane gas to various FCPS locations on an automatic fill basis, except for Liberty Elementary, which is “will call”. Propane gas will be used for space heating (within a school building, green house, mobile classroom and the like) and for burner pilots in science labs and shops. All tanks are leased through the successful propane gas supplier except the underground tank at Liberty Elementary.

8. **CONTRACT TERMS**  
a. The initial contract term shall be effective from January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2017, and may be renewed for one additional two-year term effective January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2019. Vendors automatically accept the possibility of contract renewal as a condition of award when a bid is submitted. The renewal of the contract shall be at the sole discretion of the Board of Education of Frederick County.

b. Quantities of propane gas specified herein are estimates only. FCPS reserves the right to increase or decrease quantities ordered based on fluctuations in demand. The quantities are stated for the convenience of the bidders and in no way obligate the Board of Education for purchases of specific amounts. There shall be no minimum usage fees allowed.

c. Tanks may be leased at additional school/facility sites and additional tanks may be leased at existing sites at any time during the life of the contract. There shall be no additional expenses paid for delivery of additional or replacement tanks, or removal of unused tanks. All tanks required shall be provided and serviced by the successful bidder at the bid prices.

d. The successful contractor is responsible for providing, installing and maintaining the leased tanks at sites, and maintaining current records and reports.

e. The successful vendor must be able to accommodate existing site conditions. FCPS will not make any modifications to the current site conditions to accommodate vendor’s equipment. Vendors are advised to examine the sites prior to submitting a bid to determine if retrofitting would be required.

f. The awarded contractor is responsible for negotiating any transfer of ownership of existing tanks and controls within two weeks after notice of award and shall advise the FCPS contract administrator in writing when this has been accomplished. Tank transfer shall not cause more than a day of interrupted service. FCPS will not be responsible for any costs associated with the transfer or installation of the successful vendor’s tanks. Amerigas is the current contracted provider.

g. Any tank change shall be complete no later than December 22, 2015. FCPS will provide contact information to facilitate this communication.

h. The contractor shall perform a visual inspection of all tanks at least annually to ensure the tanks are maintained in safe operating condition. A copy of the report shall be issued to the FCPS contract administrator. Negligence arising from poorly maintained tanks shall be borne by the contractor.

i. All tanks are to be refilled on an automatic fill basis. If emergency deliveries are required as a result of not following an automatic fill schedule, the cost of an emergency delivery shall be borne by the awarded contractor.
j. It is assumed that the plant location from which product and service may be obtained is the same as listed on the Form of Proposal. If a different location is handling customer service, the location, dispatcher or customer service representative and contact information must be provided.

k. All work and service shall be accomplished in accordance with all state, county and local government laws, ordinances and regulations.

9. **PRICING AND PROPOSAL PREPARATION**
   a. Prices shall be based on a fluctuating basis with a margin that is fixed for the life of the contract, including renewal period.
   
   b. All prices quoted shall include all transportation, FOB destination, and miscellaneous handling charges to various locations in Frederick County, Maryland as listed in Attachment 1.
   
   c. No other charges or fuel surcharges are acceptable.
   
   d. Initial price quotations for bid purposes shall be based on a published Thursday, November 12, 2015 posting.
   
   e. Upon request, the contractor shall supply verification of prices in effect at the time of delivery by submitting proof of pricing from either the Butane Propane Newsletter or the OPIS average, Mt. Belleview, Texas posting.

10. **DELIVERY**
   a. GAS MUST BE DELIVERED ON AN AUTOMATIC FILL BASIS BETWEEN 7:00 A.M. AND 7:00 P.M. MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY. It shall be the contractor’s responsibility to maintain sufficient product to insure that an adequate product level is provided.
   
   b. Failure to supply the requirements of propane gas to facilities shall result in the contractor assuming the responsibility for any cost difference to FCPS between the price of the contract gas and the purchase of the gas on the open market.
   
   c. During severe weather conditions, special accommodations will be made for delivery times. If deliveries are made under these circumstances, and no FCPS official is available to sign the delivery ticket the driver of the truck is requested to leave it in the designated box location on or in the vicinity of the loading dock.
   
   d. Under normal conditions, all delivery tickets must be signed by a FCPS representative. School custodians and truck drivers will assume responsibility for verifying tank gauges before and after delivery, and prior to signing of delivery tickets. All such data shall be noted on the delivery tickets.
   
   e. Deliveries by tank wagon must be made by trucks equipped with meters. Delivery tickets must be completed to include:

1. Delivery date
2. Time of delivery
3. Delivery Location
4. Gallons delivered as verified by meter stamp
5. Tank volume before and after delivery
6. Signature of authorized FCPS staff
f. Before and after delivery of gas, the driver of the truck shall be required to make an inspection of the driveway and the building adjacent thereto in the presence of assigned staff to ascertain whether or not any damage has been done to FCPS property.

g. Damages caused during delivery shall be borne by the awarded contractor. Damages shall be repaired to the satisfaction of the representative of FCPS, or the contractor shall reimburse FCPS for damages within 90 days of notification. The cost of damages may be withheld from payment to the contractor.

11. BILLING
a. Each delivery should be billed separately by receiving facility. The vendor shall mail or email the invoices to and email meter readings to:
   Charles Dalphon  
   Energy/Utility Coordinator  
   Frederick County Public Schools  
   7446 Hayward Road  
   Frederick, MD 21702  
   Charles.Dalphon@fcps.org

b. The receiving schools shall sign and date the itemized delivery tickets and forward them to Krista Long, Purchasing Department, Central Office. These documents will be matched with the approved invoice to initiate payment. Payment will be made within 30 days of billing date.

12. SPECIFICATIONS
a. Propane gas furnished under this contract will meet the properties specified in “Properties of L-P Gases”, the National Fire Protection Association 58, Liquefied Petroleum Gas Code, most current edition. These standards shall apply to the operation of all LP-Gas systems including containers, piping and associated equipment, when delivering LP-Gas to a building for use of a fuel gas.

b. FCPS reserves the right to sample the quality of the propane gas on any delivery designated at any time or place. The cost of testing a representative sample of any order or shipment for acceptance shall be borne by FCPS. If the order or shipment is rejected for failure to meet the requirements of the specifications or purchase description, the cost of testing representative sample of initial and replacement shipments will be charged to the contractor.

c. Should a poor quality of gas (i.e. contaminated or dirty) be introduced into any tank it will be the responsibility of the contractor to replace the gas and bear all costs for cleaning the tank.

13. AWARD OF CONTRACT
This contract will be awarded to one vendor, with consideration given to prior experience, ability to perform and any other criteria deemed important.

14. EMARYLANDMARKETPLACE REGISTRATION
Contractors are required to register with www.eMarylandMarketplace.org within five days following notice of award. Maryland law requires local and state agencies to post award notices on eMaryland Marketplace. This cannot be done without the contractor’s self-registration in the system. Registration is free. Failure to comply with this requirement may be considered grounds for default. It is recommended that any interested bidder register with eMaryland Marketplace regardless of the award outcome for this procurement as it is a valuable resource for bid notification for municipalities through Maryland.
BID 16M5, PROPANE GAS
FORM OF PROPOSAL

I. LIBERTY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - TRANSPORT DELIVERY

Automatic Fill Delivery Schedule and Estimated Annual Usage of 17,000 gallons:

Posted transport price on 11/12/2015: $_______Posted Price/Gal

Plus Fixed $_______ Mark-up/Gal. = $_______ / Gallon as of 11/12/2015 times

Estimated 17,000 gallons/year = $_______ Total Estimated Annual Cost

II. ALL OTHER LOCATIONS – TANK WAGON DELIVERY

Automatic Fill Delivery Schedule and Estimated Annual Usage of 26,000 gallons:

Posted tank wagon price on 11/12/2015: $_______Posted Price/Gal

Plus Fixed $_______ Mark-up/Gal. = $_______ / Gallon as of 11/12/2015 times

Estimated 26,000 gallons/year = $_______ Total Estimated Annual Cost

III. Affirm that you will use the Mt. Belvieu, TX terminal posted rate in the Wall Street Journal on _____________(day of the week) throughout the contract period for billing purposes.

____________________ (Initials)

IV. Name, contact information for dispatcher or customer service representative and the location of the bidder’s supply terminal is to be listed below. (Please note that the contractor is not required to use the same supplier throughout the contract period, however, changes in contact information should be supplied in advance to the purchasing department buyer and the contract administrator.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contact Person</th>
<th>Cell/Phone Numbers</th>
<th>Email Address</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

V. List three current customers who have been serviced for at least two years:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company</th>
<th>Contact</th>
<th>Cell/Phone Number</th>
<th>Email Address</th>
<th>#Years Serviced</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#</td>
<td>SITE</td>
<td>TANK SIZE/GALLONS</td>
<td>2015 Usage</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----</td>
<td>-------------------------------------</td>
<td>-------------------</td>
<td>------------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Annex Main &amp; 7446 Hayward</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>1,052</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Brunswick High</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>6,545</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Catoctin High</td>
<td>500/4,000</td>
<td>7,736</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Kemptown Elementary</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>174</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Liberty Elementary*</td>
<td>18,000</td>
<td>17,705</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Linganore High School</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>4,499</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Middletown Elementary</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Middletown High</td>
<td>1000/100 (x 2)</td>
<td>2,351</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>New Market Middle</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>120</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Thurmont Elementary</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Thurmont Middle</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>2,284</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Walkersville High</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>377</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Yellow Springs Elementary</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>453</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Hillcrest Elementary</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2015 Total Annual Usage</td>
<td></td>
<td>43,296</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*All tanks are above ground and are leased from the contracted gas vendor except for Liberty Elementary which has an underground tank and is owned by FCPS.*
SIGNATURE ACKNOWLEDGING COST PROPOSAL

Note: When submitting your bid/proposal, please use this page as a cover sheet for your cost proposal.

In compliance with your invitation for bidders, the undersigned proposes to furnish and deliver all labor and materials in accordance with the accompanying specifications and "Instructions and General Conditions" for the price as listed on the enclosed Proposal Sheet(s).

I/We certify that this bid/proposal is made without previous understanding, agreement, or connection with any person, firm, or corporation submitting a bid/proposal for the same goods/services and is, in all respects fair and without collusion or fraud; that none of this company's officers, directors, partners or its employees have been convicted of bribery, attempted bribery, or conspiracy to bribe under the laws of any state or federal government; and that no member of the Board of Education of Frederick County, Administrative or Supervisory Personnel or other employees of the Frederick County Public Schools, has any interest in the bidding company except as follows:

COMPANY: ________________________________

dba: _______________________________________________________________________

REGISTERED MARYLAND CONTRACTOR NUMBER: ________________________________

FEDERAL IDENTIFICATION: ___________________________ DATE: ________________

The undersigned has familiarized themselves with the conditions affecting the work, the specifications, and is legally authorized to make this proposal on behalf of the Contractor listed above.

NAME (please print): ________________________________

SIGNATURE OF ABOVE: ________________________________

TITLE: ____________________________________________

ADDRESS: ____________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________

TELEPHONE # ___________________ FAX # ___________________

E-MAIL ADDRESS (for correspondence): ________________________________

E-MAIL ADDRESS (for receiving Purchase Orders): ________________________________

(DO NOT COMPLETE THIS AREA IF YOUR COMPANY IS UNABLE TO RECEIVE PURCHASE ORDERS ELECTRONICALLY)

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF ADDENDA (if applicable)

The above-signed company/firm acknowledges the receipt of the following addenda for the above-referenced solicitation.

Date Received by Proposer/Bidder:

Addendum #1 ___________________ Addendum #2 ___________________
Addendum #3 ___________________ Addendum #4 ___________________
Addendum #5 ___________________ Addendum #6 ___________________
STATUTORY AFFIDAVIT AND NON-COLLUSION CERTIFICATION

Special Instructions: An authorized representative of the bidder needs to complete the following affidavit and insert an answer to paragraphs 1 and 3.

BIDDERS: The submission of the following Affidavit at the time of the bid opening is:

X requested to be completed but not required to be notarized.

required to be completed and notarized.

I, ________________________________, being duly sworn, depose and state:

1. I am the ______________________ (officer) and duly authorized representative of the firm of the organization named ________________________________ whose address is (Name of Corporation)

possess the authority to make this affidavit and certification on behalf of myself and the firm for which I am acting.

2. Except as described in paragraph 3 below, neither I, nor to the best of my knowledge, the above firm, nor any of its officers, directors, or partners, or any of its employees who are directly involved in obtaining or performing contracts with any public bodies has:

   a. been convicted of bribery, attempted bribery, or conspiracy to bribe, under the laws of any state or of the federal government;

   b. been convicted under the laws of the state, another state, or the United States of: a criminal offense incident to obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public or private contract; or fraud, embezzlement, theft, forgery, falsification or destruction of records, or receiving stolen property;

   c. been convicted of criminal violation of an antitrust statute of the State of Maryland, another state, or the United States;

   d. been convicted of a violation of the Racketeer influenced and Corrupt Organization Act, or the Mail Fraud Act, for acts in connection with the submission of bids or proposals for a public or private contract;

   e. been convicted of any felony offenses connected with obtaining, holding, or maintaining a minority business enterprise certification, as prohibited by Section 14-308 of the State Finance & Procurement Article;

   f. been convicted of conspiracy to commit any act or omission that would constitute grounds for conviction under any of the laws or statutes described in Paragraph (a) through (e) above; or

   g. been found civilly liable under an antitrust statute of this State, another state, or the United States for acts or omissions in connection with the submission of bids or proposals for a public or private contract.

3. The only conviction, plea, or admission by any officer, director, partner, or employee of this firm to involvement in any of the conduct described in Paragraph 2 above is as follows:
If none, write “None” below. If involvement, list the date, count, or charge, official or administrative body, the individuals involved, their position with the firm, and the sentence or disposition of the charge.

________________________________________
(you may attach an explanation necessary)

4. I affirm that this firm will not knowingly enter into a contract with a public body under which a person or business debarred or suspended under Maryland State Finance and Procurement Title 16, subtitle 3, Annotated Code of Maryland, as amended, will provide, directly or indirectly, supplies, services, architectural services, construction-related services, leases of real property, or construction.

5. I affirm that this proposal or bid to the Board of Education of Frederick County is genuine and not collusive or a sham; that said bidder has not colluded, conspired, connived and agreed, directly or indirectly, with any bidder or person to put in a sham bid or to refrain from bidding and is not in any manner, directly or indirectly, sought by agreement of collusion or communication or conference, with any person to fix the bid prices of the affidavit or any other bidder, or to fix any overhead, profit or cost element of said bid price, or that if any bidder, or to secure an advantage against the Board of Education of Frederick County or any other person interested in the proposed contract; and that all statements in the proposal or bid are true. I acknowledge that, if the representations set forth in this affidavit are not true and correct, the Board of Education of Frederick County may terminate any contract awarded and take any other appropriate action.

I DO SOLEMNLY DECLARE AND AFFIRM under the penalties of perjury that the contents of this affidavit are true and correct, that I am executing this Affidavit in compliance with Section 16-311 of the State Finance and Procurement Article, Annotated Code of Maryland, and in compliance with requirements of the Frederick County Board of Education, and that I am executing and submitting this Proposal on behalf of and as authorized by the bidder named below.

________________________________________  ____________________________
(Witness)  (Title)

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me on this __________ day of ______________, 20__.

________________________________________  NOTARY PUBLIC

My Commission Expires: ________________________________

________________________________________
(Legal Name of Company)

(dba)

________________________________________
(Address)

(City)  (State)  (Zip)

________________________________________  ____________________________
(Telephone)  (Fax)

________________________________________
(Print Name)  (Title)  (Date)

________________________________________
(Signature)  (Title)  (Date)

We are/I am licensed to do business in the State of Maryland as a:
( ) Corporation  ( ) Partnership  ( ) Individual  ( ) Other
1. All Contractors, subcontractors or vendors must abide by FCPS Board policies and regulations while working on FCPS property.

2. Maryland Law requires that any person who enters into a contract with a county board of education may not knowingly employ an individual to work at a schools (or FCPS facility) if the individual is a registered sex offender. Please reference §11-113 of the Criminal Procedure Article of Maryland Code for penalty.

3. Be advised that individuals who are registered sex offenders are not eligible to work on any FCPS project. The Contractor must initially check the Maryland Department of Public Safety & Correctional Services’ MARYLAND SEX OFFENDER REGISTRY and search for the name of any employee to be assigned to work on this project. This applies to subcontractors and material/equipment suppliers as well.

4. In the event that a registered sex offender is discovered to be working on a FCPS project, whether through employment by the prime Contractor, subcontractor or vendor, the site superintendent will immediately remove the individual from the premises and permanently terminate his work assignment. FCPS may terminate this contract as a result if the Contractor is unable to demonstrate he has exercised care and diligence in the past in checking the Maryland registry.

5. Effective July 1, 2015, amendments to §6-113 of the Education Article of the Maryland Code further require that a contractor or subcontractor or vendor for a local school system may not knowingly assign an employee to work on school premises with direct, unsupervised, and uncontrolled access to children, if the employee has been convicted of, or pled guilty or nolo contendere to, a crime involving:

   a. A sexual offense in the third or fourth degree under §3-307 or §3-308 of the Criminal Law Article of the Maryland Code.
   b. Child sexual abuse under §3-602 of the Criminal Law Article of the Maryland Code or any other State; or
   c. A crime of violence as defined in §14-101 of the Criminal Law Article of the Maryland Code or any other State

6. Under recent amendments to §5-561 of the Family Law Article of the Maryland Code, each contractor, subcontractor or vendor shall certify by signing this affidavit that any individuals in its work-force including sub-contractors, have undergone a criminal background check, including fingerprinting, if the individuals will work in a FCPS school facility in circumstances where they have direct, unsupervised, and uncontrolled access to children.

By my signature below, I affirm under penalties of perjury that the contents of this Certification of Compliance are true to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

Signature___________________________________Date___________________________________

Print name and title of signatory________________________________________________________

Print name of company_______________________________________________________________