

**DETERMINATION AND FINDING
FOR A SOLE SOURCE PROCUREMENT**

AGENCY: District of Columbia Public Schools
Lafayette Elementary School
CAPTION: Full Option Science System (FOSS)
PROPOSED CONTRACTOR: Delta Education
CONTRACT NO. N/A

FINDINGS

1. AUTHORIZATION:

D.C. Code 2-354.04.5 and 27 DCMR, Section 1304 and 1702.

2. MINIMUM NEED:

The District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS), Lafayette Elementary School has an immediate need to procure FOSS (Full Option Science System) kits from Delta Education Services to support the implementation of the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) for instruction in classrooms Grades 1-3 (approximately 15 classrooms and 345 students).

3. ESTIMATED COST:

The estimated cost is \$48,539.

3. FACTS WHICH JUSTIFY A SOLE SOURCE PROCUREMENT:

The District of Columbia, in addition to adopting the [Common Core State Standards](#) in reading and mathematics, has adopted new, more challenging learning standards designed to encourage the highest achievement of every student, by defining the knowledge, concepts and skills that students should acquire at each grade level. The new learning standards in physical education, health, and the arts are among the best in the nation and are the cornerstone of the school system's commitment to provide an excellent education to each student.

In order to meet the Common Core State Standards in Science, DCPS curriculum requires the implementation of the NGSS. In a review of available science kits (texts, materials, hands on equipment), no other company provides complete kits for all grade levels that are aligned to the NGSS.

Other kits that were considered were:

SCITT Classroom kits (<http://www.scittkits.com/classroom-complete-kits/>) - Not NGSS aligned

Pearsons (<http://www.pearsonschool.com/index.cfm?locator=PS1p1u>) - limited to one/two activities, no materials or texts included.

Carolina Supplies (<http://www.carolina.com/stem-science-technology-engineering-math-curriculum/science-and-technology-concepts-stc-elementary-curriculum/10817.ct?mCat=10788>) - not NGSS aligned and not grade specific. Does not include texts.

Delta Education is the only vendor who has reconfigured their science kits to be aligned to the NGSS and is the only vendor to produce FOSS kits. Delta Education will also provide training support and refill kit support to the classrooms ; the only vendor who provides support for FOSS kits.

The Lawrence Hall of Science, University of California at Berkeley, holds the copyright for the Full Option Science System (FOSS) program. Delta Education is the sole publisher and distributor of this material, and this material cannot be purchased from any other source.

Based on the aforementioned information, it is both necessary and in the best interest of DCPS, to contract with Delta Education as the sole source for providing Full Option Science System (FOSS) kits for the implementation of Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) in classrooms Grades 1-3.

CERTIFICATION BY THE DCPS PROGRAM OFFICE:

I hereby certify that the above findings are correct and the anticipated cost to DCPS is fair and reasonable.

Date

Instructional Superintendent

CERTIFICATION AND DETERMINATION

Based on the above certified findings in accordance cited authority, I hereby determine that it is not feasible or practical to invoke the competitive bidding process under Section 402 or 403 of the District of Columbia Procurement Practices Reform Act of 2010 (D.C. Law 18-371; DC Official Code § 2-354 and 27 DCMR 1304 and 1700. Accordingly, I determine that the District is justified in using the sole source method of procurement.

Date

Chief Procurement Officer