Sacramento Public Library Authority

July 28, 2011

Agenda Item 14.0: Service Contract: Online Tutoring Services

TO: **Sacramento Public Library Authority Board Members**

FROM: **Nina Biddle, Library Materials Manager**

RE: **Service Contract: Online Tutoring Services**

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:

Adopt Resolution 11-41, A Resolution Approving the Professional Services Agreement with Brainfuse, Inc., for Online Tutoring Services

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION

In 2008 the Sacramento Public Library Authority Board approved a five-year contract for tutoring services with Brainfuse, Inc. In reviewing usage statistics in May 2011, library staff determined the service was not cost effective and notified Brainfuse that the contract would be terminated. However, staff determined that this online resource would be a critical component of the Library's new Homework Center model, which uses volunteer Homework Coaches as described in an earlier report. Therefore, a Request for Quotation was released on June 8, 2011 to identify online tutoring service vendors. Two vendors resonded, including Brainfuse, Inc., which lowered its annual cost for online tutoring services to the Library by 17%. With its lower cost and robust product, Brainfuse was selected as the service provider.

The live tutoring service, provided by trained and qualified tutors using California-Aligned Skills Building, is available seven days a week, ten hours per day, to help in core subject areas for K-12, including Math, Science, English/Language Arts, Social Studies, ESL, Foreign Language Assistance, Computer Literacy, and Test Preparation. Spanish-speaking tutors are available for each of these subject areas.

The Adult Learning Center component of the service provides such features as college preparatory assistance and tutoring for introductory college courses.

Online learning opportunities such as these, and most critically homework help-- by enhancing and supplementing traditional homework assistance provided by schools and other institutions in Sacramento--play an important part in meeting the Library's strategic directions.

ATTACHMENT

Resolution 11-41, A Resolution Approving the Professional Services Agreement with Brainfuse, Inc., for Online Tutoring Services

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Sacramento Public Library Authority

RESOLUTION NO. 11-41

Adopted by the Governing Board of the Sacramento Public Library Authority on the date of:

JULY 28, 2011

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH BRAINFUSE, INC., FOR ONLINE TUTORING SERVICES

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE SACRAMENTO PUBLIC LIBRARY AUTHORITY AS FOLLOWS:

1. The Professional Services Agreement with Brainfuse, Inc., is approved in an amount not to exceed $62,000.

2. The Library Director is authorized to sign all documents related to this contract within the approved terms and consistent with the requirements of the Authority's Contracts and Procurement Policy.

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Sandy Sheedy, Chair

ATTEST:

Rivkah K. Sass, Secretary

By:_____
Brenda Haggard, Assistant Secretary

ATTACHMENTS:
None

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