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March 10, 2023

Robert Cohen
Indiana Department of Administration
Procurement Division
402 West Washington Street, Rm W468
Indianapolis, IN 46204

RE: RFP# 24-74523 Executive Summary

Bartholomew Consolidated School Corporation (BCSC) and the Promoting Achievement through Technology and Instruction for All Students project (PATINS) respectfully submits this executive summary along with the accompanying required documents related to our bid for IDOA RFP 24-74523 in order to provide the services requested by the IDOE to Indiana public Local Education Agencies (LEAs) related to Assistive Technology (AT) and Accessible Educational Materials per the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEIA), Indiana's Article 7 Special Education Rules, and the federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), through the Indiana Department of Education (IDOE), including accountability to the Indiana Department of Administration (IDOA).

PATINS and BCSC possess a long history and deep understanding of the IDOE's current request for the provision and maintenance of an accessible/assistive technology lending library, both universal and customized training on assistive technology and accessible formats of educational materials, a refurbished technology program, coordination with the federal National Instructional Materials Accessibility Center (NIMAC), and delivery in a more than timely manner of Accessible Educational Materials (AEM) to Indiana public LEAs with assurances that account for the federally required preservation of copyright integrity of

K12 textbooks and related core materials, per the National Instructional Materials Accessibility Standard (NIMAS) of the IDEA 2004 provision and federal copyright law.

For over 25 years, PATINS has been establishing and maintaining the critically positive and supportive relationships with Indiana's K12 school leadership, the Indiana Council for Administrators of Special Education (ICASE), the other resource centers that are part of the Indiana Resource Network (IRN) and has worked closely and collaboratively with the IDOE, to help ensure that learner-centered service and deliverable provision is closely aligned with the pillars that represent the mission, values, and vision of the IDOE.

The result of awarding PATINS/BCSC this contract will be complete fulfillment of every aspect of the Scope of Work (SOW) in RFP 24-74523. PATINS has been identified by the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) as a program of national significance and a national leader in the implementation of the federal NIMAS regulations for students with disabilities. The PATINS Project and its collaborating partners have the necessary infrastructure, the networking, the relationships with Indiana LEAs, and the proven expertise to efficiently and effectively provide for all aspects of the implementation of the [Federal Part B regulations](#), per this scope work requested, and to provide the IDOE and Indiana LEAs with the required Accessible Educational Materials, and Assistive Technology technical assistance to meet the federal requirements at a fair and reasonable cost for the ultimate purpose of improving achievement for all students.

The PATINS Project is team with the expertise necessary to effectively and efficiently provide support and guidance to Indiana's public K12 LEAs, through the IDOE, relating to the implementation and fulfillment of all aspects of the [Federal Part B regulations](#), and includes Dr. George Van Horn, Director of Special Education, BCSC; Daniel McNulty, PATINS Director since 2012 and PATINS Associate Director since 2006; David Jackson, PATINS Assistant Director and Specialist since 2019 and AT & SLP in Indiana schools since 1998. The remainder of the PATINS team is comprised of 10 Technical Assistance Specialists, each with unique areas of deep expertise related to AT, AEM, and accessibility, a Lending Library Manager, a part-time Lending Library Assistant, a Financial Manager, and a Data & Logistics Manager and Outreach Specialist, all focused on the PATINS mission of

supporting Indiana LEAs in creating, implementing, and sustaining a Free and Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) through more comprehensive and meaningful access to, participation in, and adequate progress in the general curriculum for all students. Additionally, PATINS/BCSC will subcontract services to 3 M/WBE companies and 1 IVOSB company, including at least 1 with “Buy Indiana” certification.

The PATINS Project's Center for Accessible Materials (ICAM) consists of several components designed to assist IDOE and LEAs in achieving and maintaining compliance with the NIMAS regulations, IDEA, ESSA, and the November 2015 OSEP Dear Colleague Letter, as well as Indiana's special education requirements (511IAC 7). The primary vehicle of the ICAM is a web-based student registration and ordering system (<http://www.patinsproject.org/icam/icam>). Because IDOE must agree to limited use of the NIMAS file sets (per the federal NIMAS and IDEA requirements), the ICAM has developed, adopted, and published procedures to protect against copyright infringement [20 USC §1474 (e)(2)(C)] by restricting access to the NIMAS files to only those users who are authorized by the local school corporation. Only an LEA's superintendent appointed and registered Digital Rights Managers (DRMs) for an LEA may register qualified students with print disabilities, review student records, and place orders for Accessible Educational Materials (per the student's IEP and Case Conference Committee). The PATINS Project already has a proven system in place that is regularly updated.

The PATINS Center for Accessible Materials currently has over 800 registered and trained DRMS - representing all of Indiana's 400+ LEAs. LEAs may register up to 5 DRMS and are provided with the requisite training and on-going support. The PATINS Project is the only vendor that has the infrastructure in place to provide the state with the requisite and compliant NIMAS delivery system and critical follow-up technical assistance and support, both for the acquisition of Accessible Educational Materials in compliance with federal copyright regulations and the successful implementation of specialized formats of materials in Indiana's in-person and virtual classrooms.

Additionally, PATINS provides professional development, technical assistance, assistive technology services and access to assistive technology devices to ensure that both the State

Education Agency (SEA) and Indiana's Local Education Agencies (LEAs) are in compliance with the requirements of 34 CFR §300.105. PATINS maintains an extensive and regularly updated lending library that loans assistive technology devices, software, and resource materials at no cost to the LEA so that they may be utilized with students with disabilities for evaluation periods. This allows the LEA and the student to trial with the assistive devices, collect data with fidelity, and to make accurate determinations regarding the AT's appropriateness, before the LEA expends OK that other one that was at the top really funds to purchase the AT. This is an invaluable service that saves Indiana LEAs hundreds of thousands of dollars each year. PATINS also maintains the provision of refurbished technology to provide to students with disabilities and to LEA classrooms where the need for such technology to fill specific gaps exist, as well as the provision of trainings, technical assistance, and consultation to Indiana educators on a level that is unmatched. In the last 18 months, the PATINS Project has served Indiana LEAs by loaning 3,179 items for 6-week trials from our lending library, providing 1,599 trainings and consultations (both virtually and in-person), supplying over 4,000 accessible versions of textbooks, providing assistive with 4,207 instances of technical assistance. These services are further outlined and described in the technical proposal.

Even though the requirement for evidence of financial responsibility has been removed at the request of the agency for this RFP, the included business proposal demonstrates BCSC's financial infrastructure, recent audit history, and integrity to administer a statewide project of this scope with the highest level of fiscal responsibility. The Bartholomew Consolidated School Corporation is not currently registered with the Secretary of State as it was created and exists as a public entity, a public K12 school corporation, as authorized by the State of Indiana. The prices of awarded products/services shall remain consistent through pricing extended to other governmental bodies, should that become necessary, noting that all other governmental bodies must be willing to accept items as described in the specifications without any changes once the solicitation is awarded, as specified in the RFP Main Document.

Business Information

Primary Name: Bartholomew Consolidated School Corporation

Address: 1200 Central Ave. Columbus, IN 47201

Bidder ID#: 0000038400

FEIN#: 35-1113190

Business Type: Indiana Public School Corporation, Non-Profit K12 Local Education Agency

NAICS: 611100

This Executive Summary has been signed by both Dr. George Van Horn, BCSC Director of Special Education and by Daniel G. McNulty, Director of the PATINS Project. In the case of an awarded contract or clarifying questions, the following contact information should be utilized.

Technical Contact

On all matters related to the delivery of the services in this scope of work, please contact:

Daniel McNulty,
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Columbus, IN 47201
(574) 214-7065
dmcnulty@patinsproject.org

Business Contact

On all matters related to contractual affairs, please contact:

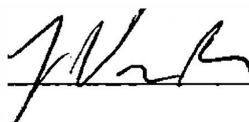
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The PATINS Project and BCSC eagerly anticipate the opportunity to continue serving the educators and students of Indiana's public K12 schools.

Sincerely,



Dr. Daniel G McNulty
Director, PATINS Project



Dr. George Van Horn
Director of Special Education, BCSC

