Agenda Request Form

Meeting Date	Agenda Item Number
April 16, 2020	A-1

Title

Approval of Renewal of Partnership Agreement with The Children's Haven

Requested Action

School Board Consideration of Superintendent's Recommendation to Approve Renewal of Partnership Agreement with The Children's Haven

Summary Explanation and Background

One of the School Board's Blueprint 2020-24 Five Priority Areas is increasing meaningful family, partner and community engagement. We believe the meaningful connections we forge with students, families and community partners positively influence how we teach, lead and prepare graduates for success in a knowledge-based, technology rich and culturally diverse world.

The School Board is requested to consider the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the renewal of the Partnership Agreement with The Children's Haven, formerly known as CASA for Children.

Priority Area

Family, Partner and Community Engagement

Financial Impact

N/A

Exhibits: (List)

Draft Agreement Attached

Source of Additional Information

Dr. Brian V. Hightower	770.479.1871
Barbara Jacoby	770.479.1871

PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

BETWEEN

THE CHEROKEE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

AND

~~CASA FOR CHILDREN, INC.~~ THE CHILDREN'S HAVEN

This agreement entered into on this ~~17th day of April 2014~~ 16th day of April, 2020 by and between the Cherokee County Board of Education, hereinafter referred to as the "School Board," and ~~CASA for Children, Inc., hereinafter referred to as "CASA"~~ The Children's Haven.

WHEREAS, the School Board's mission is to educate the emerging generation through learning environments designed to increase the performance of all students ~~enable all students to become contributing citizens who can communicate effectively, gather and use information, make responsible decisions, utilize technology effectively, and adapt to the challenges of the future~~; and,

WHEREAS, one of the School Board's Priority Areas is Family, Partner and Community Engagement ~~Major System Priorities is to increase parental and community involvement through public engagement policies and practices that treat parents, businesses, community-based organizations and agencies, local institutions of higher learning and other public entities as true partners in the educational process~~; and,

WHEREAS, ~~CASA's~~ The Children's Haven mission is to provide trained volunteer child advocates to serve as a child's guardian ad litem in Juvenile Court dependency proceedings. The volunteer child advocate promotes services for the child's physical, medical, emotional and educational well- being during this vulnerable period and serves as a catalyst in the court system to ensure that the child does not linger in foster care but is moved into a safe and permanent home as quickly as possible.

WHEREAS, ~~CASA's~~ The Children's Haven vision is that EVERY child should have the chance to grow up in a safe and permanent home. Children who are free from violence and in a stable home are ready to learn.

Now therefore in consideration of the covenants and conditions set forth herein the parties agree as follows:

ARTICLE I

The parties agree that the foregoing recitals are true and correct and incorporated herein by reference:

ARTICLE II

The School Board:

1. Maintain open communication channels, provide necessary School District contact information, and commit to meet with ~~CASA~~ The Children's Haven leadership in order to enhance inter-agency cooperation and collaboration.

2. Provide the opportunity for ~~CASA~~ The Children's Haven staff to address the School District counselors, social workers and teachers to explain their role in the partnership.

3. Promote ~~CASA~~ The Children's Haven programs through existing communication channels, as permitted by School Board policy.

4. Pursue joint grant opportunities in both parties' best interests.

ARTICLE III

~~CASA~~ The Children's Haven will:

1. Maintain open communication channels, provide necessary organization contact information and commit to meet with School District leadership in order to enhance inter-agency cooperation and collaboration.

2. Provide presentations and/or information relative to its services to School Principals, social workers, counselors and teachers to explain their role in the partnership.

3. Provide ~~CASA~~ The Children's Haven staff representation on Safe and Drug Free School Community Advisory Committee, Cherokee County Truancy Panel or other mutually agreeable committee, if requested by the School Board.

4. Pursue joint grant opportunities in both parties' best interests.

5. Accept all children for participation within its programs without regard to their gender, race, political affiliation, age, national origin or handicapping condition or any other discrimination recognized and prohibited by State or Federal Law. Children with handicaps must be provided all necessary levels of supervision and must be included within the activities of the partnering organization. As a result of this partnership

agreement, ~~CASA~~ The Children's Haven must adhere to all local, State or Federal laws regarding education.

ARTICLE IV

The term of this contract is ~~April 17, 2014 through April 17, 2015~~ April 16, 2020 through April 16, 2021. This contract shall automatically renew for additional terms not to exceed five years unless either party notifies the other at least 60 days prior to renewal date.

ARTICLE V

All proposed amendments to this contract shall be submitted to the Superintendent of Cherokee County Schools at ~~110 Academy Street~~ PO Box 769, Canton, Georgia 301~~1~~469, and to the Executive Director, ~~CASA for Children, Inc.~~ The Children's Haven at ~~100 North Street, Suite G22~~ 1083 Marietta Hwy., Canton, Georgia 30114; and approved by the respective Boards.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the parties have executed this document the first date referred to herein.

~~CASA FOR CHILDREN, INC.~~ THE CHILDREN'S HAVEN:

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Marcie Smith

Executive Director

THE CHEROKEE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION:

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By: Kyla Cromer, Chairman

_____

By: Dr. Brian V. Hightower

Superintendent of Schools

Approved as to form:

_____

Tom Roach, Esquire