



Agenda Request Form

Meeting Date	Agenda Item Number
March 21, 2024	A-13

Title
Approval of New Partnership Agreement with Building Fires Inc., and Renewal of Partnership Agreement with United Way
Requested Action
School Board Consideration of Superintendent's Recommendation to Approve the New Partnership Agreement with Building Fires Inc., and to Approve the Renewal of the Partnership Agreement with United Way
Summary Explanation and Background
<p>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.</p> <p>The School Board is requested to consider the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the partnership agreements with Building Fires Inc., and United Way.</p>
Priority Area
Family, Partner and Community Engagement
Financial Impact
N/A
Exhibits: (List)
Agreements Attached
Source of Additional Information
Mary Elizabeth Davis, PhD 770.479.1871 Barbara Jacoby 770.479.1871

PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
THE CHEROKEE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
AND
BUILDING FIRES INC.

This Partnership Agreement is entered into on this 21st day of March, 2024, by and between the Cherokee County Board of Education, hereinafter referred to as the “School Board” and Building Fires Inc.

WHEREAS, the School Board’s mission is to educate the emerging generation through learning environments designed to increase the performance of all students; and,

WHEREAS, one of the School District’s Priority Areas is Family, Partner and Community Engagement; and,

WHEREAS, Building Fires is a non-denominational, non-profit organization headquartered in Canton that dedicates its talents and resources toward serving underprivileged children in our community through Scholarships, Varsity Jackets, Mentoring and Life Coaching.

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 will:

1. Promote Building Fires Inc. programs and events through existing communication channels, as permitted by School Board policy.
2. Allow Building Fires Inc. program information and/or applications to be made available to school counselors, athletic directors, varsity coaches and other appropriate parties to then be made available to eligible children.

3. Allow Building Fires Inc. distribution events to be held in CCSD facilities as available, waiving the rental fee as per the Community Use of System Facilities Policy (KG).
4. The Office of School Operations will regularly communicate to Building Fires Inc. information about new opportunities to help students in need, such as through varsity jackets, team registration dues, coaching, mentoring, etc.
5. Pursue joint grant opportunities in both parties' best interests.

ARTICLE III

Building Fires Inc. will:

1. Support opportunities, as donations allow, to help student/athletes in need, such as through scholarships, varsity jackets, mentoring and life skill coaching.
2. Use its referral network of additional community organizations to further assist with such requests.
3. Contact appropriate School Operations personnel to explain the purpose of Building Fires Inc. programs, which will then electronically distribute information and/or applications to school administrators, athletic directors, varsity coaches and other appropriate parties to then be made available to eligible children.
4. Abide by the rules and regulations contained in the facility use contract at each school facility and those contained in the Community Use of System Facilities Policy (KG), including custodial and supervisory fees when applicable.
5. Pursue joint grant opportunities in both parties' best interests.
6. Accept all children for participation within its programs without regard to their gender, race, political affiliation, age, national origin or any other discrimination recognized and prohibited by State or Federal Law. As a result of this partnership agreement, Building Fires Inc. must adhere to all local, State or Federal laws regarding education.

ARTICLE IV

The term of this agreement is March 21, 2024 through March 21, 2025, and 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

This agreement may be terminated by either party upon thirty (30) days written notice to the other party with or without cause. All notice of this agreement shall be given to the Superintendent of Cherokee County Schools at PO Box 769, Canton, GA 30114 and to the Building Fires Inc. Board of Directors, 116 Rock Creek Lane, Canton, GA 30114 or such other address if notice is given by either party of a new address pursuant to this notice section.

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

BUILDING FIRES INC.

THE CHEROKEE COUNTY BOARD OF
EDUCATION

By: Todd Baker, Chairman

By: Kyla Cromer, Chairman

By: Jason Moody, Executive Director

By: Mary Elizabeth Davis, PhD.
Superintendent of Schools

Approved as to form:

Abby Roach, Esquire

PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
THE CHEROKEE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
AND
UNITED WAY OF GREATER ATLANTA

This agreement entered into on this ~~15th~~ 21st Day of March, ~~2018~~24 by and between the Cherokee County Board of Education, hereinafter referred to as the "School Board" and United Way of Greater Atlanta, hereinafter referred to as the "United Way."

WHEREAS, the School Board's mission is to educate the emerging generation through learning environments designed to increase the performance of all students; and,

~~WHEREAS, one of the School Board's 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~~
District's Priority Areas is Family, Partner and Community Engagement; and,

WHEREAS, United Way's mission is that every child in our community has the opportunity to reach his or her potential, and to build a strong future for Greater Atlanta, and

WHEREAS, United Way's vision is that Greater Atlanta is a place where all individuals, and families and communities thrive, and

WHEREAS, United Way believes that communities that can say "all the children are well" have babies who are born healthy; kids who read proficiently by third grade; teens graduating from high school prepared for college, careers and life; children growing up in secure homes and safe neighborhoods, with healthy food, and access to medical care to keep them healthy; and families supported by communities where people are educated, employed and housed; and have ready access to good healthcare and affordable healthy foods, and

WHEREAS, United Way funded ~~agencies partners~~ serving Cherokee County residents ~~with programs and services operating in Cherokee County~~ include: American Cancer Society, American Red Cross, Anna Crawford Children's Center, Atlanta Legal Aid, Boy Scouts of America, Atlanta Chapter, Boys and Girls Club of Metro Atlanta Cherokee County, Children's Haven, Center for Children and Young Adults, Cherokee Family Violence Center, Cherokee Outdoor YMCA of Metro Atlanta, Diabetes Association, Empowerment Resource Center, Families First, Girl Scouts of Metro Atlanta, Goodwill Services of North Georgia, Goshen Valley Foundation, Homeless Coalition of Cherokee County, Jewish

Family & Career Services, Live Safe, MUST Ministries, Open Hand Atlanta, Reach Out and Read, Inc., Ser Familia, St. Vincent de Paul Society and Visiting Nurses Health System, and

WHEREAS, The Cherokee County School System employees contributed ~~14~~ 11 percent of the ~~\$571,698.00~~ \$435,376 total in the ~~2016/2017~~ 2022/2023 Cherokee County United Way campaign, and

WHEREAS, United Way of Greater Atlanta ~~invested~~ returned over ~~\$800,000~~ \$375,000 in child well being mission funded programs and designated donations ~~in services serving~~ 9,683 Cherokee County residents ~~2017~~ in 2022-2023. 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 will:

1. Continue the countrywide payroll deduction option for pledges to United Way, with the assurance of both parties of maintaining employee confidentiality.
2. Provide a coordinator at each school site and at the Central Office to facilitate the annual campaign.
3. Provide the opportunity for school system employees to work cooperatively with United Way to hold a special fundraising event (i.e. faculty/student basketball games and/or employee softball tournament).
4. Provide use of school system mail/email for distribution of United Way campaign materials, as permitted by School Board policy.
5. Provide a school system representative on the United Way Chairman's Cabinet/Advisory Board.
6. Allow the usage of the United Way's ePledge system to collect pledges from employees and special events, with the assurance of both parties of maintaining employee confidentiality.
7. Provide the opportunity for a United Way representative to speak at the Principal's Meeting before the annual campaign begins.

8. Conduct the annual United Way campaign during a set two-week period during ~~September/October/~~November for all schools.
9. Encourage participation of schools in United Way's Shoebox.
10. Encourage high school seniors to participate with United Way ~~in a volunteer project (i.e. Shoebox, Youth United)~~ for their Senior Project.

ARTICLE III

United Way will:

1. Conduct the annual United Way campaign during the months of ~~September/October/~~November with the assurance of both parties of maintaining employee confidentiality.
2. Conduct a Coordinators Training/Campaign Kickoff at the Cherokee County Board of Education Central Office, providing training and campaign materials.
3. Provide a representative to speak at the Principal's Meeting before the annual campaign begins and provide campaign materials.
4. Provide the ePledge platform as well as any training and IT assistance that is required.
5. Provide the opportunity for high school seniors to participate with United Way ~~in a volunteer project (i.e. Shoebox, Youth United)~~ for their Senior Project.
6. Accept all children/interested participants 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/participants with handicaps must be provided all necessary levels of supervision and must be included within the activities of the partnering organizations. As a result of this partnership agreement, United Way must adhere to all local, State and Federal laws regarding education.

ARTICLE IV

The term of this contract is March ~~1521, 201824~~ through March ~~1521, 201925~~. 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

This contract may be terminated by either party upon thirty (30) days written notice to the other party with or without cause. All notice of this contract shall be given to the Superintendent of Cherokee County Schools at PO Box 769, Canton, GA 30114, and to the United Way of Greater Atlanta at 40 Courtland St. NE, Suite 300, Atlanta, GA 30303.

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

UNITED WAY OF GREATER ATLANTA

THE CHEROKEE COUNTY BOARD OF
EDUCATION

By: Nicole Lawson Doll, Regional Director
- Northwest

By: Kyla Cromer, Chairman

By: Mary Elizabeth Davis, PhD
Superintendent of Schools

Approved as to form:

Abby Roach, Esquire