

MOUNT VERNON CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
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MOUNT VERNON, NEW YORK 10553
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TO: All Bidders
FROM: Board of Education of the Mount Vernon City School District
DATE: January 30, 2024
RE: RFP # 24/25-03 Food Consultant Service

ADDENDUM # 1

1. Questions/Answers

PLEASE E-MAIL THIS COVER SHEET TOGETHER WITH YOUR COMPANY'S NAME TO OUR OFFICE AS CONFIRMATION OF RECEIPT.

Bid # 24/25-03 Food Consultant Service

The Mount Vernon City School District received the following inquiries from prospective proposers concerning the RFP specifications and/or procedures. The questions received and the District's responses are as follows:

Did the district previously have another consultant functioning in the same capacity as the RFP now seeks to fill? If so, can you provide the name of the firm?

Answer: No.

We noticed that the district's FSMC, Aramark, recently advertised for a new food services director to work in your district. Combined with this RFP, it would seem to indicate that perhaps the FSMC program has experienced some sort of recent disruption or challenge. Can you share the background as to why this RFP has been released at this time?

Answer: The posting of the Food service Director for Aramark is unrelated to this posting. This current RFP is to provide additional support to both the FSMC and the District in the overall operations of the NSLP program for a large urban school district.

The RFP requests participation in a number of meetings. Are those typically in-person meetings or would attendance via Zoom be acceptable?

Answer: Both zoom and in person are required.

Several of the requested services seem to describe items that are typically handled by the FSMC, such as establishing accountability, hiring and training personnel, overseeing assigned staff, and meeting with the Wellness Committee. Were some of these requested services previously the responsibility of Aramark?

Answer: This is a shared service.

A number of the requested services are more diagnostic in nature while others are more routine oversight in nature. Would the district be amenable to an approach that includes an initial consulting engagement to document what is currently working well and what is not, then an ongoing working relationship where the district is billed monthly based on the number of hours of consulting provided?

Answer: The district seeks an overall program assessment, followed by ongoing operational oversight, management, and a collaborative partnership with the awarded vendor. This partnership should include regular meetings to ensure continued compliance and effectiveness. The proposal should outline a comprehensive price structure that includes both the initial assessment and the ongoing oversight and management services, with clearly defined costs and services.

The RFP is requesting consulting services, but in the cost section seems to indicate a desire for just 1 consultant working full-time, since it requests costs for an 8-hour day and 215 days. Would the district be interested in a proposal that would include a team of consultants but would not provide full-time support at points when it was not needed?

Answer: Part 11 – Cost: This section shall include the proposed cot/rate and unit of payment to provide the food consult service(s) offered by proposer. The District is

seeking an hourly rate, a daily rate based on a eight (8) hour day and the total cost for 215 days as needed.