

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT NO. 508  
County of Cook and State of Illinois

SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETER SERVICES  
ALL COLLEGES

(Amend Board Reports 25043, dated December 5, 2003 and 26028 dated February 5, 2004)

THE CHANCELLOR

REPORTS

that there is a need throughout the year to provide hearing-impaired students with sign language interpreters in the classroom; and that in order to establish a program to provide quality services with consistent pricing for all of the colleges, staff issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) in July, 2004 to identify and recommend the proper firm(s); and

that three firms submitted proposals in response to the RFP: Chicago Area Interpreter Services (CAIRS), Lukas Interpreting, Inc. and Chicago Hearing Society (a division of Lester and Rosalie Anixter Center); staff including Special Needs Coordinators at the colleges reviewed the proposals and based on the evaluation criteria in the RFP - qualifications, experience, cost of services, overall responsiveness of the proposal to RFP requirements - staff recommends acceptance of the proposal from CAIRS; CAIRS is well qualified, and has successfully worked with several of the colleges in the past; CAIRS also proposed the lowest hourly rate - \$45.00, and they have agreed to modify their normal cancellation policy (48 hours) to allow the colleges to cancel within one business day in advance of the scheduled service appointment; and

that CAIRS has requested a waiver of the District's M/WBE requirements.

THE CHANCELLOR

RECOMMENDS

that the Board of Trustees authorize the Chairman to enter into an agreement with Chicago Area Interpreter Referral Service, 2545 W. Peterson Avenue, Chicago, IL to provide services to hearing-impaired students at all City Colleges on an as-needed basis for a period of two years, with an option to renew for an additional one-year period for an estimated annual cost of \$50,000.

FINANCIAL

As Needed -- Educational Fund

Respectfully submitted:

Wayne D. Watson  
Chancellor