

6/1 mll



Frank Edelblut
Commissioner

Christine M. Brennan
Deputy Commissioner

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
101 Pleasant Street
Concord, NH 03301
TEL. (603) 271-3495
FAX (603) 271-1953

March 7, 2022

His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu
and the Honorable Council
State House
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

REQUESTED ACTION

Authorize the Department of Education (NH DOE), Bureau of Student Wellness and Nutrition, to enter into a contract with the RMC Research Corporation (Vendor Code 175710) Portsmouth, NH, in an amount not to exceed \$135,000 to submit a publishable report and research paper, describing the results of a survey and focus-group study of student's perceptions of school-induced distress, effective upon Governor and Council approval through September 29, 2023. 100% Federal Funds

Funds to support this request are available in the account titled School Climate Transformation Grant and Federal Accountability for FY22 and FY23 with the authority to adjust encumbrances between Fiscal years within the price limitation through the budget office, without further Governor and Council approval if needed and justified.

		<u>FY22</u>	<u>FY23</u>
06-56-56-562010-23700000-102-500731	Contracts for Program Services	\$25,000	\$110,000

EXPLANATION

RMC has worked closely with NH DOE over many years to carry out projects designed to improve educational outcomes for students. Their approach values the talents of all partners, employing strategic and collaborative processes that enable personnel across organizations to work positively and productively together. Together, their proposed team brings the knowledge, skills and experience that are required to support NH DOE in gathering the information it needs to support healthy outcomes for students in all school environments.

His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu
and the Honorable Council
Page 2

The services in this contract will include submission of a final project report and a publishable research paper, describing the results of a survey and focus-group study of students' perceptions of sources of school-induced distress and of how schooling could be improved. This information will be useful data to make informed decisions, using the student's perceptions to fund future projects that meet the needs of NH's students to include technical assistance and training to meet the needs of school staff and students.

A Request for Proposals (RFP) was posted on the Department of Education's website from December 31, 2020 to March 1, 2021, and The Department received one (1) proposal from the issuance of the Request for Proposals RFP # 2021- 2022 Wellness Research in NH Schools & Home School Environments Research Project #2

A review committee consisting of the Deputy Commissioner of the Department of Education, Administrator of the Office of Social Emotional Wellness, and Dr. Peter Gray, Research Professor, Department of Psychology and Neuroscience, Boston College reviewed the proposal and found it met the criteria of the Request for Proposal (Attachment A).

In the event Federal Funds become no longer available, General Funds will not be requested to support this program.

Respectfully submitted,



Frank Edelblut
Commissioner of Education

Attachment A
Bid Summary Scoring Sheet
RMC Research Corporation

Proposal Criteria in the RFP

Knowledge and experience with survey methodology	10
Knowledge and experience with Quantitative & Qualitative analysis	10
Project plan with measures and statistical approach	20
Budget Proposal	20
Knowledge and experience with focus group methodology	10
Study approach and timeline	20
Foreseeable changes and how they would approach them	10
Total	100

Proposals Received

One (1) proposal from RMC Research Corporation was received from the issuance of the Request for Proposals RFP # 2021- 2022 Wellness Research in NH Schools & Home School Environments Research Project #2

Reviewer Scores

Company	Score #1	Score #2	Score #3	Average
RMC Research	81	81	78	80

Review Process

Scoring for review occurred on March 01, 2021 and was held virtually. The proposal review panel consisted of the following employees from the Department of Education, and a research expert from the field:

Reviewer Qualifications

Christine Brennan M.Ed, CAGS, Deputy Commissioner at the Department of Education has worked in Education for 30 years and was appointed to the Department of education in 2017.

Jennifer Doris M. ED, Administrator of the Office of Social Emotional Wellness has worked in the field of education for 20 years and worked for the State of NH for the past 5 years.

Dr. Peter Gray PhD, Research Professor, Department of Psychology and Neuroscience, Boston College, has been conducting and publishing research into child development and education for the past 35 years, with focus on the ways that educational environments impact not just academic growth but mental and social wellbeing of students.

FORM NUMBER P-37 (version 12/11/2019)



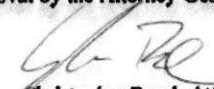
Notice: This agreement and all of its attachments shall become public upon submission to Governor and Executive Council for approval. Any information that is private, confidential or proprietary must be clearly identified to the agency and agreed to in writing prior to signing the contract.

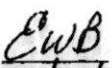
AGREEMENT

The State of New Hampshire and the Contractor hereby mutually agree as follows:

GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. IDENTIFICATION.

1.1 State Agency Name NH Department of Education Bureau of Student Wellness Office of Social and Emotional Wellness		1.2 State Agency Address 101 Pleasant Street Concord, NH 03301	
1.3 Contractor Name RMC Research Corporation (Vendor Code 175710)		1.4 Contractor Address 1000 Market Street Portsmouth, NH 03801	
1.5 Contractor Phone No. (800) 258-0802	1.6 Account Number See Exhibit C	1.7 Completion Date September 29, 2023	1.8 Price Limitation \$135,000
1.9 Contracting Officer for State Agency Jen Doris, Administrator Office of Social Emotional Wellness and Nutrition		1.10 State Agency Telephone Number (603) 271-2295	
1.11 Contractor Signature  Date: 2/25/22		1.12 Name and Title of Contractor Signatory Everett Barnes, Jr., President and Chairman of the Board of Directors	
1.13 State Agency Signature  Date: 3/14/2022		1.14 Name and Title of State Agency Signatory Frank Edelblut, Commissioner of Education	
1.15 Approval by the N.H. Department of Administration, Division of Personnel (if applicable) By: _____ Director, On: _____			
1.16 Approval by the Attorney General (Form, Substance and Execution) (if applicable) By:  On: 3/14/2022 Christopher Bond, Attorney			
1.17 Approval by the Governor and Executive Council (if applicable) G&C Item number: _____ G&C Meeting Date: _____			

Contractor Initials 
Date 2/25/22

2. SERVICES TO BE PERFORMED. The State of New Hampshire, acting through the agency identified in block 1.1 ("State"), engages contractor identified in block 1.3 ("Contractor") to perform, and the Contractor shall perform, the work or sale of goods, or both, identified and more particularly described in the attached EXHIBIT B which is incorporated herein by reference ("Services").

3. EFFECTIVE DATE/COMPLETION OF SERVICES.

3.1 Notwithstanding any provision of this Agreement to the contrary, and subject to the approval of the Governor and Executive Council of the State of New Hampshire, if applicable, this Agreement, and all obligations of the parties hereunder, shall become effective on the date the Governor and Executive Council approve this Agreement as indicated in block 1.17, unless no such approval is required, in which case the Agreement shall become effective on the date the Agreement is signed by the State Agency as shown in block 1.13 ("Effective Date").

3.2 If the Contractor commences the Services prior to the Effective Date, all Services performed by the Contractor prior to the Effective Date shall be performed at the sole risk of the Contractor, and in the event that this Agreement does not become effective, the State shall have no liability to the Contractor, including without limitation, any obligation to pay the Contractor for any costs incurred or Services performed. Contractor must complete all Services by the Completion Date specified in block 1.7.

4. CONDITIONAL NATURE OF AGREEMENT.

Notwithstanding any provision of this Agreement to the contrary, all obligations of the State hereunder, including, without limitation, the continuance of payments hereunder, are contingent upon the availability and continued appropriation of funds affected by any state or federal legislative or executive action that reduces, eliminates or otherwise modifies the appropriation or availability of funding for this Agreement and the Scope for Services provided in EXHIBIT B, in whole or in part. In no event shall the State be liable for any payments hereunder in excess of such available appropriated funds. In the event of a reduction or termination of appropriated funds, the State shall have the right to withhold payment until such funds become available, if ever, and shall have the right to reduce or terminate the Services under this Agreement immediately upon giving the Contractor notice of such reduction or termination. The State shall not be required to transfer funds from any other account or source to the Account identified in block 1.6 in the event funds in that Account are reduced or unavailable.

5. CONTRACT PRICE/PRICE LIMITATION/ PAYMENT.

5.1 The contract price, method of payment, and terms of payment are identified and more particularly described in EXHIBIT C which is incorporated herein by reference.

5.2 The payment by the State of the contract price shall be the only and the complete reimbursement to the Contractor for all expenses, of whatever nature incurred by the Contractor in the performance hereof, and shall be the only and the complete

compensation to the Contractor for the Services. The State shall have no liability to the Contractor other than the contract price.

5.3 The State reserves the right to offset from any amounts otherwise payable to the Contractor under this Agreement those liquidated amounts required or permitted by N.H. RSA 80:7 through RSA 80:7-c or any other provision of law.

5.4 Notwithstanding any provision in this Agreement to the contrary, and notwithstanding unexpected circumstances, in no event shall the total of all payments authorized, or actually made hereunder, exceed the Price Limitation set forth in block 1.8.

6. COMPLIANCE BY CONTRACTOR WITH LAWS AND REGULATIONS/ EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY.

6.1 In connection with the performance of the Services, the Contractor shall comply with all applicable statutes, laws, regulations, and orders of federal, state, county or municipal authorities which impose any obligation or duty upon the Contractor, including, but not limited to, civil rights and equal employment opportunity laws. In addition, if this Agreement is funded in any part by monies of the United States, the Contractor shall comply with all federal executive orders, rules, regulations and statutes, and with any rules, regulations and guidelines as the State or the United States issue to implement these regulations. The Contractor shall also comply with all applicable intellectual property laws.

6.2 During the term of this Agreement, the Contractor shall not discriminate against employees or applicants for employment because of race, color, religion, creed, age, sex, handicap, sexual orientation, or national origin and will take affirmative action to prevent such discrimination.

6.3. The Contractor agrees to permit the State or United States access to any of the Contractor's books, records and accounts for the purpose of ascertaining compliance with all rules, regulations and orders, and the covenants, terms and conditions of this Agreement.

7. PERSONNEL.

7.1 The Contractor shall at its own expense provide all personnel necessary to perform the Services. The Contractor warrants that all personnel engaged in the Services shall be qualified to perform the Services, and shall be properly licensed and otherwise authorized to do so under all applicable laws.

7.2 Unless otherwise authorized in writing, during the term of this Agreement, and for a period of six (6) months after the Completion Date in block 1.7, the Contractor shall not hire, and shall not permit any subcontractor or other person, firm or corporation with whom it is engaged in a combined effort to perform the Services to hire, any person who is a State employee or official, who is materially involved in the procurement, administration or performance of this Agreement. This provision shall survive termination of this Agreement.

7.3 The Contracting Officer specified in block 1.9, or his or her successor, shall be the State's representative. In the event of any dispute concerning the interpretation of this Agreement, the Contracting Officer's decision shall be final for the State.

8. EVENT OF DEFAULT/REMEDIES.

8.1 Any one or more of the following acts or omissions of the Contractor shall constitute an event of default hereunder ("Event of Default"):

8.1.1 failure to perform the Services satisfactorily or on schedule;

8.1.2 failure to submit any report required hereunder; and/or

8.1.3 failure to perform any other covenant, term or condition of this Agreement.

8.2 Upon the occurrence of any Event of Default, the State may take any one, or more, or all, of the following actions:

8.2.1 give the Contractor a written notice specifying the Event of Default and requiring it to be remedied within, in the absence of a greater or lesser specification of time, thirty (30) days from the date of the notice; and if the Event of Default is not timely cured, terminate this Agreement, effective two (2) days after giving the Contractor notice of termination;

8.2.2 give the Contractor a written notice specifying the Event of Default and suspending all payments to be made under this Agreement and ordering that the portion of the contract price which would otherwise accrue to the Contractor during the period from the date of such notice until such time as the State determines that the Contractor has cured the Event of Default shall never be paid to the Contractor;

8.2.3 give the Contractor a written notice specifying the Event of Default and set off against any other obligations the State may owe to the Contractor any damages the State suffers by reason of any Event of Default; and/or

8.2.4 give the Contractor a written notice specifying the Event of Default, treat the Agreement as breached, terminate the Agreement and pursue any of its remedies at law or in equity, or both.

8.3. No failure by the State to enforce any provisions hereof after any Event of Default shall be deemed a waiver of its rights with regard to that Event of Default, or any subsequent Event of Default. No express failure to enforce any Event of Default shall be deemed a waiver of the right of the State to enforce each and all of the provisions hereof upon any further or other Event of Default on the part of the Contractor.

9. TERMINATION.

9.1 Notwithstanding paragraph 8, the State may, at its sole discretion, terminate the Agreement for any reason, in whole or in part, by thirty (30) days written notice to the Contractor that the State is exercising its option to terminate the Agreement.

9.2 In the event of an early termination of this Agreement for any reason other than the completion of the Services, the Contractor shall, at the State's discretion, deliver to the Contracting Officer, not later than fifteen (15) days after the date of termination, a report ("Termination Report") describing in detail all Services performed, and the contract price earned, to and including the date of termination. The form, subject matter, content, and number of copies of the Termination Report shall be identical to those of any Final Report described in the attached EXHIBIT B. In addition, at the State's discretion, the Contractor shall, within 15 days of notice of early termination, develop and

submit to the State a Transition Plan for services under the Agreement.

10. DATA/ACCESS/CONFIDENTIALITY/PRESERVATION.

10.1 As used in this Agreement, the word "data" shall mean all information and things developed or obtained during the performance of, or acquired or developed by reason of, this Agreement, including, but not limited to, all studies, reports, files, formulae, surveys, maps, charts, sound recordings, video recordings, pictorial reproductions, drawings, analyses, graphic representations, computer programs, computer printouts, notes, letters, memoranda, papers, and documents, all whether finished or unfinished.

10.2 All data and any property which has been received from the State or purchased with funds provided for that purpose under this Agreement, shall be the property of the State, and shall be returned to the State upon demand or upon termination of this Agreement for any reason.

10.3 Confidentiality of data shall be governed by N.H. RSA chapter 91-A or other existing law. Disclosure of data requires prior written approval of the State.

11. **CONTRACTOR'S RELATION TO THE STATE.** In the performance of this Agreement the Contractor is in all respects an independent contractor, and is neither an agent nor an employee of the State. Neither the Contractor nor any of its officers, employees, agents or members shall have authority to bind the State or receive any benefits, workers' compensation or other emoluments provided by the State to its employees.

12. ASSIGNMENT/DELEGATION/SUBCONTRACTS.

12.1 The Contractor shall not assign, or otherwise transfer any interest in this Agreement without the prior written notice, which shall be provided to the State, at least fifteen (15) days prior to the assignment, and a written consent of the State. For purposes of this paragraph, a Change of Control shall constitute assignment. "Change of Control" means (a) merger, consolidation, or a transaction or series of related transactions in which a third party, together with its affiliates, becomes the direct or indirect owner of fifty percent (50%) or more of the voting shares or similar equity interests, or combined voting power of the Contractor, or (b) the sale of all or substantially all of the assets of the Contractor.

12.2 None of the Services shall be subcontracted by the Contractor without prior written notice and consent of the State. The State is entitled to copies of all subcontracts and assignment agreements and shall not be bound by any provisions contained in a subcontract or an assignment agreement to which it is not a party.

13. **INDEMNIFICATION.** Unless otherwise exempted by law, the Contractor shall indemnify and hold harmless the State, its officers and employees, from and against any and all claims, liabilities and costs for any personal injury or property damages, patent or copyright infringement, or other claims asserted against the State, its officers or employees, which arise out of (or which may be claimed to arise out of) the acts or omission of the

Contractor Initials EB
Date 2/25/22

Contractor, or subcontractors, including but not limited to the negligence, reckless or intentional conduct. The State shall not be liable for any costs incurred by the Contractor arising under this paragraph 13. Notwithstanding the foregoing, nothing herein contained shall be deemed to constitute a waiver of the sovereign immunity of the State, which immunity is hereby reserved to the State. This covenant in paragraph 13 shall survive the termination of this Agreement.

14. INSURANCE.

14.1 The Contractor shall, at its sole expense, obtain and continuously maintain in force, and shall require any subcontractor or assignee to obtain and maintain in force, the following insurance:

14.1.1 commercial general liability insurance against all claims of bodily injury, death or property damage, in amounts of not less than \$1,000,000 per occurrence and \$2,000,000 aggregate or excess; and

14.1.2 special cause of loss coverage form covering all property subject to subparagraph 10.2 herein, in an amount not less than 80% of the whole replacement value of the property.

14.2 The policies described in subparagraph 14.1 herein shall be on policy forms and endorsements approved for use in the State of New Hampshire by the N.H. Department of Insurance, and issued by insurers licensed in the State of New Hampshire.

14.3 The Contractor shall furnish to the Contracting Officer identified in block 1.9, or his or her successor, a certificate(s) of insurance for all insurance required under this Agreement. Contractor shall also furnish to the Contracting Officer identified in block 1.9, or his or her successor, certificate(s) of insurance for all renewal(s) of insurance required under this Agreement no later than ten (10) days prior to the expiration date of each insurance policy. The certificate(s) of insurance and any renewals thereof shall be attached and are incorporated herein by reference.

15. WORKERS' COMPENSATION.

15.1 By signing this agreement, the Contractor agrees, certifies and warrants that the Contractor is in compliance with or exempt from, the requirements of N.H. RSA chapter 281-A ("*Workers' Compensation*").

15.2 To the extent the Contractor is subject to the requirements of N.H. RSA chapter 281-A, Contractor shall maintain, and require any subcontractor or assignee to secure and maintain, payment of Workers' Compensation in connection with activities which the person proposes to undertake pursuant to this Agreement. The Contractor shall furnish the Contracting Officer identified in block 1.9, or his or her successor, proof of Workers' Compensation in the manner described in N.H. RSA chapter 281-A and any applicable renewal(s) thereof, which shall be attached and are incorporated herein by reference. The State shall not be responsible for payment of any Workers' Compensation premiums or for any other claim or benefit for Contractor, or any subcontractor or employee of Contractor, which might arise under applicable State of New Hampshire Workers' Compensation laws in connection with the performance of the Services under this Agreement.

16. **NOTICE.** Any notice by a party hereto to the other party shall be deemed to have been duly delivered or given at the time of mailing by certified mail, postage prepaid, in a United States Post Office addressed to the parties at the addresses given in blocks 1.2 and 1.4, herein.

17. **AMENDMENT.** This Agreement may be amended, waived or discharged only by an instrument in writing signed by the parties hereto and only after approval of such amendment, waiver or discharge by the Governor and Executive Council of the State of New Hampshire unless no such approval is required under the circumstances pursuant to State law, rule or policy.

18. **CHOICE OF LAW AND FORUM.** This Agreement shall be governed, interpreted and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of New Hampshire, and is binding upon and inures to the benefit of the parties and their respective successors and assigns. The wording used in this Agreement is the wording chosen by the parties to express their mutual intent, and no rule of construction shall be applied against or in favor of any party. Any actions arising out of this Agreement shall be brought and maintained in New Hampshire Superior Court which shall have exclusive jurisdiction thereof.

19. **CONFLICTING TERMS.** In the event of a conflict between the terms of this P-37 form (as modified in EXHIBIT A) and/or attachments and amendment thereof, the terms of the P-37 (as modified in EXHIBIT A) shall control.

20. **THIRD PARTIES.** The parties hereto do not intend to benefit any third parties and this Agreement shall not be construed to confer any such benefit.

21. **HEADINGS.** The headings throughout the Agreement are for reference purposes only, and the words contained therein shall in no way be held to explain, modify, amplify or aid in the interpretation, construction or meaning of the provisions of this Agreement.

22. **SPECIAL PROVISIONS.** Additional or modifying provisions set forth in the attached EXHIBIT A are incorporated herein by reference.

23. **SEVERABILITY.** In the event any of the provisions of this Agreement are held by a court of competent jurisdiction to be contrary to any state or federal law, the remaining provisions of this Agreement will remain in full force and effect.

24. **ENTIRE AGREEMENT.** This Agreement, which may be executed in a number of counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original, constitutes the entire agreement and understanding between the parties, and supersedes all prior agreements and understandings with respect to the subject matter hereof.

EXHIBIT A
Special Provisions

Additional Exhibits D-G

Federal Certification 2 CFR 200.415

Required certifications include: (a) To assure that expenditures are proper and in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Federal award and approved project budgets, the annual and final fiscal reports or vouchers requesting payment under the agreements must include a certification, signed by an official who is authorized to legally bind the non-Federal entity, which reads as follows:

By signing this report, I certify to the best of my knowledge and belief that the report is true, complete, and accurate, and the expenditures, disbursements and cash receipts are for the purposes and objectives set forth in the terms and conditions of the Federal award. I am aware that any false, fictitious, or fraudulent information, or the omission of any material fact, may subject me to criminal, civil or administrative penalties for fraud, false statements, false claims or otherwise. (U.S. Code Title 18, Section 1001 and Title 31, Sections 3729-3730 and 3801-3812).

Contract between RMC Research Corporation (RMC) and the New Hampshire Department of Education

Contractor Initials EB
Date 7/25/22

EXHIBIT B
Scope of Services

Activity 1: Ensure a strong project start and establish ongoing systems

Collaborate with NH DOE through a project kick-off meeting of both teams to review and modify the project to ensure that all parties have full understanding of the proposed approach, activities, tasks, timelines, and deliverables. Any foreseen barriers to the proposed work and potential solutions will be part of the opening discussions. Additional planning meetings (biweekly) will be scheduled to develop agreed-upon project management systems (including communication format and schedule, document sharing, task tracking, and project report format and schedule)

- *Deliverable 1* – completed initial project meetings
- *Deliverables 5, 12, and 15* listed in exhibit C – monthly project reports to include a summary of the activities accomplished during the reporting period, including any completed deliverables, and how these align to the overall services agreed to be provided; a description of any challenges or adjustments to plans and how we propose to address those challenges, including additional information that may be needed from NH DOE a forecast of upcoming activities; a summary of staff assignments and project expenditures, any other information decided during the planning meetings need to be integrated into the reports.

Activity 2: Finalize Study Components after Collaborative Discussions with NH DOE

Collaborate with NH DOE to finalize study components:

Choose a deliberate approach to the survey instrument/questionnaires to meet the following: Mental health assessment (including discussion of Kutcher 6 item Adolescent Depression Scale and the American Psychological Association Severity Measure as options), rating of distress, open questions to address other ongoing concerns (i.e. bullying victimization, peer rejection, or conversely future optimism or self-esteem as protective factors and others) rating of feelings in school, further individual information as outlined in the Response For Proposal, RMC Research Corporation(RMC) experts will suggest including both antecedents and mental health outcomes in the measurement model, to include integrating important aspects of school climate and support systems that can show aspects of school environments that are working well in promoting student wellness.

- Focus group protocols,
- Study sample methods including discussion and recruitment of schools in different regions of the state and of different student enrollment numbers
- Informed consent forms including a protocol for attaining parent consent to meet the requirements of the nonacademic survey RSA 186.11A
- *Deliverable 3* - Study components submitted to the Institutional Review Board (IRB) (including survey instrument, focus group protocols, informed consent forms
- *Deliverable 4* - IRB approval secured

Contract between RMC Research Corporation (RMC) and the New Hampshire Department of Education

Contractor Initials EB
Date 2/25/22

Activity 3: Recruit Participants

- Collaborate with NH DOE to determine recruitment plan
- *Deliverable 2* - Completed recruitment plan including list of potential schools/districts identified and agreed upon recruitment strategies
- Execute all recruitment activities in accordance with recruitment plan
- *Deliverable 7* - Recruitment completed - confirmed list of district/school survey and focus groups participants

Activity 4: Administer Survey

- Prepare and test online survey and related documents (e.g., informed consent forms, survey communications materials)
- *Deliverable 6* - Translation of approved survey instrument and related documents completed
- *Deliverable 8* - Online survey launched

Activity 5: Conduct Focus Groups

- *Deliverable 6* - Translation of approved focus group protocols and related documents (e.g., informed consent forms, focus groups communications materials) completed
- *Deliverable 9* - Focus groups scheduled and confirmed, with appropriate interpreter services scheduled
- Focus group meetings completed

Activity 6: Analyze Survey and Focus Group Data

- Survey data cleaned and analyzed with a focus on factors agreed upon by NH DOE and RMC
- Focus group data analyzed and reported out
- *Deliverable 10* - completion of survey data analysis
- *Deliverable 11* - completion of focus group data analysis

Activity 7: Share Reports with Districts/Schools

- *Deliverable 13* - Schedule school/district report meetings
- *Deliverable 14* - Completed school/district-based reports delivered to NH DOE and schools/districts; completion of all school/district discussion meetings

Activity 8: Complete and share final deliverables with NH DOE

- Within 30 days of completion of previous project activities, submit final report to NH DOE
 - *Deliverable 16* - Create manuscript suitable for peer review and publication in an appropriate scholarly article, and
 - *Deliverable 17* - Create a project completion report, which will provide an overview of the entire project, recommendations and key accomplishments and challenges

Contract between RMC Research Corporation (RMC) and the New Hampshire Department of Education

Contractor Initials EB

Date 2/25/22

EXHIBIT C
Method of Payment

Deliverables/Work Progress & Timeline Aligned to Payment Schedule

Deliverable/ Work Progress	Project Timeline	Payment Schedule
1. Completed project kick-off meeting and agreed-upon project management systems (including communication format and schedule, document sharing, task tracking, and project report format and schedule) (<i>Activity 1</i>)	Phase 1	Invoice 1 \$25,000
2. Completed recruitment plan – list of potential schools/districts identified and agreed upon recruitment strategies (<i>Activity 3</i>)		
3. Study components submitted to IRB (including survey instrument, focus group protocols, study sample, informed consent forms) (<i>Activity 2</i>)		
4. IRB approval secured (<i>Activity 2</i>)		
5. Monthly project reports, May – August (<i>Activity 1</i>)		
6. Translation of approved instruments and related documents for up to four languages completed (<i>Activity 4, Activity 5</i>)	Phase 2	Invoice 2 \$49,000
7. Recruitment completed - confirmed list of district/school survey and focus groups participants (<i>Activity 3</i>)		
8. Online survey instrument launched (<i>Activity 4</i>)		
9. Focus groups scheduled and confirmed, with appropriate interpreter services for up to four languages scheduled (<i>Activity 5</i>)		
10. Completion of survey data analysis (<i>Activity 6</i>)		
11. Completion of focus group data analysis (<i>Activity 6</i>)		
12. Monthly project reports, September – February (<i>Activity 1</i>)		
13. School/district report discussions scheduled (<i>Activity 7</i>)	Phase 3	Invoice 3 \$25,000
14. Completed school/district-based reports delivered to NH DOE and schools/districts; completion of all school/district discussion meetings (<i>Activity 7</i>)		
15. Monthly project reports, March – June (<i>Activity 1</i>)		
16. Publishable research paper delivered to NH DOE (<i>Activity 8</i>)		Final Invoice \$36,000
17. Project completion report delivered to NH DOE (<i>Activity 8</i>)		
Total Contract Amount		\$135,000

Contract between RMC Research Corporation (RMC) and the New Hampshire Department of Education

Contractor Initials *EB*

Date *2/25/22*

Price Limitation: Upon mutual agreement between the state contracting officer and the contractor, line items in this budget may be adjusted one to another but in no case shall the total budget exceed \$135,000.

Funding Source:

Funds are available in account titled School Climate Transformation Grant and Federal Accountability for FY22 and FY23 with the authority to adjust encumbrances amongst Fiscal Years within the price limitation through the budget office, without further Governor and Council approval if needed and justified, not to exceed \$135,000.

		<u>FY22</u>	<u>FY23</u>
06-56-56-562010-23700000-102-500731	Contracts for Program Services	\$25,000	\$110,000

Method of Payment:

Payment is to be made on the basis of invoices which are supported by a summary of completed deliverables, as outlined by budget line, that have taken place in accordance with the terms of the contract, along with a detailed listing of expenses incurred. If otherwise correct and acceptable, payment will be made for 100% of the expenditures listed. A final invoice is due within 30 days of the end of this contract. Invoices and reports shall be submitted to:

Jennifer Doris
Administrator Office of Social Emotional Wellness
Jennifer.f.doris@doe.nh.gov

Contract between RMC Research Corporation (RMC) and the New Hampshire Department of Education

Contractor Initials EB

Date 2/25/22

EXHIBIT D

Contractor Obligations

Contracts in excess of the simplified acquisition threshold (currently set at \$250,000) must address **administrative, contractual, or legal remedies** in instances where the contractors violate or breach contract terms, and provide for such sanctions and penalties as appropriate. Reference: 2 C.F.R. § 200.326 and 2 C.F.R. 200, Appendix II, required contract clauses.

The contractor acknowledges that 31 U.S.C. Chap. 38 (Administrative Remedies for False Claims and Statements) applies to the contractor's actions pertaining to this contract.

The Contractor, certifies and affirms the truthfulness and accuracy of each statement of its certification and disclosure, if any. In addition, the Contractor understands and agrees that the provisions of 31 U.S.C. § 3801 et seq., apply to this certification and disclosure, if any.

Breach

A breach of the contract clauses above may be grounds for termination of the contract, and for debarment as a contractor and subcontractor as provided in 29 C.F.R. § 5.12.

Fraud and False Statements

The Contractor understands that, if the project which is the subject of this Contract is financed in whole or in part by federal funds, that if the undersigned, the company that the Contractor represents, or any employee or agent thereof, knowingly makes any false statement, representation, report or claim as to the character, quality, quantity, or cost of material used or to be used, or quantity or quality work performed or to be performed, or makes any false statement or representation of a material fact in any statement, certificate, or report, the Contractor and any company that the Contractor represents may be subject to prosecution under the provision of 18 USC § 1001 and § 1020.

Environmental Protection

(This clause is applicable if this Contract exceeds \$150,000. It applies to Federal-aid contracts only.)

The Contractor is required to comply with all applicable standards, orders or requirements issued under Section 306 of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 1857 (h)), Section 508 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1368), Executive Order 11738, and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulations (40 CFR Part 15) which prohibit the use under non-exempt Federal contracts, grants or loans of facilities included on the EPA List of Violating Facilities. Violations shall be reported to the FHWA and to the U.S. EPA Assistant Administrator for Enforcement.

Procurement of Recovered Materials

In accordance with Section 6002 of the Solid Waste Disposal Act (42 U.S.C. § 6962), State agencies and agencies of a political subdivision of a state that are using appropriated Federal funds for procurement must procure items designated in guidelines of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) at 40 CFR 247 that contain the highest percentage of recovered materials practicable, consistent with maintaining a satisfactory level of competition, where the purchase price of the item exceeds \$10,000 or the value of the quantity acquired in the preceding fiscal year exceeded \$10,000; must procure solid waste management services in a manner that maximizes energy and resource recovery; and must have established an affirmative procurement program for procurement of recovered materials identified in the EPA guidelines.

Revised 6-25-21

Contractor Initials

Date

EB
2/25/22

Exhibit E

Federal Debarment and Suspension

- a. By signature on this Contract, the Contractor certifies its compliance, and the compliance of its Sub-Contractors, present or future, by stating that any person associated therewith in the capacity of owner, partner, director, officer, principal investor, project director, manager, auditor, or any position of authority involving federal funds:
1. Is not currently under suspension, debarment, voluntary exclusion, or determination of ineligibility by any Federal Agency;
 2. Does not have a proposed debarment pending;
 3. Has not been suspended, debarred, voluntarily excluded or determined ineligible by any Federal Agency within the past three (3) years; and
 4. Has not been indicted, convicted, or had a civil judgment rendered against the firm by a court of competent jurisdiction in any matter involving fraud or official misconduct within the past three (3) years.
- b. Where the Contractor or its Sub-Contractor is unable to certify to the statement in Section a.1. above, the Contractor or its Sub-Contractor shall be declared ineligible to enter into Contract or participate in the project.
- c. Where the Contractor or Sub-Contractor is unable to certify to any of the statements as listed in Sections a.2., a.3., or a.4., above, the Contractor or its Sub-Contractor shall submit a written explanation to the DOE. The certification or explanation shall be considered in connection with the DOE's determination whether to enter into Contract.
- d. The Contractor shall provide immediate written notice to the DOE if, at any time, the Contractor or its Sub-Contractor, learn that its Debarment and Suspension certification has become erroneous by reason of changed circumstances.

Revised 6-25-21

Contractor Initials EB
Date 2/25/22

Exhibit F

Anti-Lobbying

The Contractor agrees to comply with the provisions of Section 319 of Public Law 101-121, Government wide Guidance for New Restrictions on Lobbying, and 31 U.S.C. 1352, and further agrees to have the Contractor's representative, execute the following Certification:

The Contractor certifies, by signing and submitting this contract, to the best of his/her knowledge and belief, that:

- a. No federal appropriated funds have been paid or shall be paid, by or on behalf of the undersigned, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence any officer or employee of any State or Federal Agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any Federal contract, the making of any federal grant, the making of any federal loan, the entering into any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal amendment, or modification of any Federal contract grant, loan, or cooperative agreement.
- b. If any funds other than federally appropriated funds have been paid or shall be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any Federal Agency, a Member of Congress, and officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, the undersigned shall complete and submit the "Disclosure of Lobbying Activities" form in accordance with its instructions

<https://www.gsa.gov/forms-library/disclosure-lobbying-activities>

- c. This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was made or entered into. Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making and entering into this transaction imposed by Section 1352, Title 31 and U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.
- d. The Contractor also agrees, by signing this contract that it shall require that the language of this certification be included in subcontracts with all Sub-Contractor(s) and lower-tier Sub-Contractors which exceed \$100,000 and that all such Sub-Contractors and lower-tier Sub-Contractors shall certify and disclose accordingly.
- e. The DOE shall keep the firm's certification on file as part of its original contract. The Contractor shall keep individual certifications from all Sub-Contractors and lower-tier Sub-Contractors on file. Certification shall be retained for three (3) years following completion and acceptance of any given project.

Revised 6-25-21

Contractor Initials *ER*
Date *2/25/22*

Exhibit G

Rights to Inventions Made Under a Contract, Copy Rights and Confidentiality

Rights to Inventions Made Under a Contract or Agreement

Contracts or agreements for the performance of experimental, developmental, or research work shall provide for the rights of the Federal Government and the recipient in any resulting invention in accordance with 37 CFR part 401, "Rights to Inventions Made by Nonprofit Organizations and Small Business Firms Under Government Grants, Contracts and Cooperative Agreements," and any implementing regulations issued by the DOE.

Any discovery or invention that arises during the course of the contract shall be reported to the DOE. The Contractor is required to disclose inventions promptly to the contracting officer (within 2 months) after the inventor discloses it in writing to contractor personnel responsible for patent matters. The awarding agency shall determine how rights in the invention/discovery shall be allocated consistent with "Government Patent Policy" and Title 37 C.F.R. § 401.

Confidentiality

All Written and oral information and materials disclosed or provided by the DOE under this agreement constitutes Confidential Information, regardless of whether such information was provided before or after the date on this agreement or how it was provided.

The Contractor and representatives thereof, acknowledge that by making use of, acquiring or adding to information about matters and data related to this agreement, which are confidential to the DOE and its partners, must remain the exclusive property of the DOE.

Confidential information means all data and information related to the business and operation of the DOE, including but not limited to all school and student data contained in NH Title XV, Education, Chapters 186-200.

Confidential information includes but is not limited to, student and school district data, revenue and cost information, the source code for computer software and hardware products owned in part or in whole by the DOE, financial information, partner information (including the identity of DOE partners), Contractor and supplier information, (including the identity of DOE Contractors and suppliers), and any information that has been marked "confidential" or "proprietary", or with the like designation. During the term of this contract the Contractor agrees to abide by such rules as may be adopted from time to time by the DOE to maintain the security of all confidential information. The Contractor further agrees that it will always regard and preserve as confidential information/data received during the performance of this contract. The Contractor will not use, copy, make notes, or use excerpts of any confidential information, nor will it give, disclose, provide access to, or otherwise make available any confidential information to any person not employed or contracted by the DOE or subcontracted with the Contractor.

Ownership of Intellectual Property

The DOE shall retain ownership of all source data and other intellectual property of the DOE provided to the Contractor in order to complete the services of this agreement. As well the DOE will retain copyright ownership for any and all materials, patents and intellectual property produced, including, but not limited to, brochures, resource directories, protocols, guidelines, posters, or reports. The Contractor shall not reproduce any materials for purposes other than use for the terms under the contract without prior written approval from the DOE.

Revised 6-25-21

Contractor Initials EB
Date 2/25/22

State of New Hampshire

Department of State

CERTIFICATE

I, William M. Gardner, Secretary of State of the State of New Hampshire, do hereby certify that RMC RESEARCH CORPORATION is a Maryland Profit Corporation registered to transact business in New Hampshire on November 15, 1985. I further certify that all fees and documents required by the Secretary of State's office have been received and is in good standing as far as this office is concerned.

Business ID: 89148

Certificate Number : 0005681729



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF,
I hereto set my hand and cause to be affixed
the Seal of the State of New Hampshire,
this 23rd day of February A.D. 2022.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William M. Gardner".

William M. Gardner
Secretary of State

CERTIFICATE OF VOTE

(Corporation without a Seal)

I, M. Christine Dwyer, do hereby certify that:
(Name of the Clerk of the Corporation, cannot be signatory)

- (1) I am the duly elected clerk of RMC Research Corporation
(Corporation Name)
- (2) The following are true copies of the resolutions duly adopted at a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Corporation duly held on February 21, 2022
(date)

RESOLVED: That this Corporation enter into a contract with the State of New Hampshire, acting through its Department of Education.

RESOLVED: That Everett Barnes Jr. President,
(Name of Contract Signatory) (Title of Contract Signatory)
is hereby authorized on behalf of this Agency to enter into the said contract with the State and to execute and all documents, agreements and other instruments, and any amendments, revisions, or modifications thereto, as he/she may deem necessary, desirable or appropriate.

- (3) The foregoing resolution(s) have not been amended or revoked, and remain in full force and effect as of the Upon approval day of February, 20 22
(day, month, yr) (must be same date as the contract date) as per Department of Education
- (4) Everett Barnes Jr. is the duly elected President of the corporation.
(name of contract signatory) (title of contract signatory)

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand as the Business Representative of the Corporation this 24th day of February, 20 22.

M Christine Dwyer
(Signature of Clerk of Corporation)

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

COUNTY OF Rockingham

On February 24, 2022, the foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me

In witness whereof I hereunto set my hand and official seal.



Kerry K. Houlihan
Notary Public/Justice of the Peace

My commission expires on: 11/14/2023



RMC Research Corporation
1000 Market Street, Building 2
Portsmouth, NH 03801

Phone: 603.422.8888, 800.258.0802
Fax: 603.436.9166
www.RMCResearchCorporation.com

I, M. Christine Dwyer, Senior Vice president of RMC Research Corporation, organized and existing under the laws of the State of Maryland, hereby certify that the following is a true copy of a resolution adopted at a meeting of the Board of Directors of said corporation, duly held on the 21st of February, 2022.

CORPORATE RESOLUTION

Resolved that Everett Barnes, Jr., President and Chairman of the Board of Directors is hereby authorized to contract and to execute any and all documents, agreements, and other instruments; and any amendments, revisions, or modifications thereto, as he may deem necessary, desirable, or appropriate on behalf of RMC Research Corporation.

AND I DO FURTHER CERTIFY that the above resolution has not been in any way altered, amended or repealed and is now in full force and effect.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the corporate seal of RMC Research Corporation the 24th of February, 2022.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "M. Christine Dwyer".

M. Christine Dwyer
Senior Vice President





RMCRESE-01

LJUKIC

CERTIFICATE OF LIABILITY INSURANCE

DATE (MM/DD/YYYY)

7/21/2021

THIS CERTIFICATE IS ISSUED AS A MATTER OF INFORMATION ONLY AND CONFERS NO RIGHTS UPON THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER. THIS CERTIFICATE DOES NOT AFFIRMATIVELY OR NEGATIVELY AMEND, EXTEND OR ALTER THE COVERAGE AFFORDED BY THE POLICIES BELOW. THIS CERTIFICATE OF INSURANCE DOES NOT CONSTITUTE A CONTRACT BETWEEN THE ISSUING INSURER(S), AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE OR PRODUCER, AND THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER.

IMPORTANT: If the certificate holder is an ADDITIONAL INSURED, the policy(ies) must have ADDITIONAL INSURED provisions or be endorsed. If SUBROGATION IS WAIVED, subject to the terms and conditions of the policy, certain policies may require an endorsement. A statement on this certificate does not confer rights to the certificate holder in lieu of such endorsement(s).

PRODUCER AssuredPartners New England, Inc. 1555 Lafayette Road Portsmouth, NH 03801	CONTACT NAME: Anna Gallant, ACSR, CISR, CRIS	
	PHONE (A/C, No, Ext): (603) 399-6148 FAX (A/C, No): (603) 399-6148	
	E-MAIL ADDRESS: Anna.Gallant@AssuredPartners.com	
INSURED RMC Research Corp. 1501 Wilson Blvd Suite 400 Arlington, VA 22209	INSURER(S) AFFORDING COVERAGE	NAIC #
	INSURER A : Ohio Security Insurance Company	24082
	INSURER B : Ohio Casualty Ins. Co.	24074
	INSURER C : Allied World Insurance Company	22730
	INSURER D :	
	INSURER E :	
	INSURER F :	

COVERAGES

CERTIFICATE NUMBER:

REVISION NUMBER:

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT THE POLICIES OF INSURANCE LISTED BELOW HAVE BEEN ISSUED TO THE INSURED NAMED ABOVE FOR THE POLICY PERIOD INDICATED. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY REQUIREMENT, TERM OR CONDITION OF ANY CONTRACT OR OTHER DOCUMENT WITH RESPECT TO WHICH THIS CERTIFICATE MAY BE ISSUED OR MAY PERTAIN, THE INSURANCE AFFORDED BY THE POLICIES DESCRIBED HEREIN IS SUBJECT TO ALL THE TERMS, EXCLUSIONS AND CONDITIONS OF SUCH POLICIES. LIMITS SHOWN MAY HAVE BEEN REDUCED BY PAID CLAIMS.

INSR LTR	TYPE OF INSURANCE	ADDL INSD	SUBR WVD	POLICY NUMBER	POLICY EFF (MM/DD/YYYY)	POLICY EXP (MM/DD/YYYY)	LIMITS
A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL GENERAL LIABILITY CLAIMS-MADE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUR GEN'L AGGREGATE LIMIT APPLIES PER: <input type="checkbox"/> POLICY <input type="checkbox"/> PROJECT <input type="checkbox"/> LOC OTHER:				7/1/2021	7/1/2022	EACH OCCURRENCE \$ 1,000,000 DAMAGE TO RENTED PREMISES (Ea occurrence) \$ 300,000 MED EXP (Any one person) \$ 15,000 PERSONAL & ADV INJURY \$ 1,000,000 GENERAL AGGREGATE \$ 2,000,000 PRODUCTS - COMPIOP AGG \$ 2,000,000
A	<input type="checkbox"/> AUTOMOBILE LIABILITY ANY AUTO OWNED AUTOS ONLY <input type="checkbox"/> SCHEDULED AUTOS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> HIRED AUTOS ONLY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NON-OWNED AUTOS ONLY				7/1/2021	7/1/2022	COMBINED SINGLE LIMIT (Ea accident) \$ 1,000,000 BODILY INJURY (Per person) \$ BODILY INJURY (Per accident) \$ PROPERTY DAMAGE (Per accident) \$
B	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UMBRELLA LIAB <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUR EXCESS LIAB CLAIMS-MADE DED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RETENTION \$ 10,000				7/1/2021	7/1/2022	EACH OCCURRENCE \$ 5,000,000 AGGREGATE \$ 5,000,000
A	WORKERS COMPENSATION AND EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY ANY PROPRIETOR/PARTNER/EXECUTIVE OFFICER/MEMBER EXCLUDED? (Mandatory in NH) If yes, describe under DESCRIPTION OF OPERATIONS below	Y/N Y	N/A		7/1/2021	7/1/2022	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PER STATUTE <input type="checkbox"/> OTH-ER E.L. EACH ACCIDENT \$ 1,000,000 E.L. DISEASE - EA EMPLOYEE \$ 1,000,000 E.L. DISEASE - POLICY LIMIT \$ 1,000,000
C	Professional Liabil				7/1/2021	7/1/2022	3,000,000 3,000,000

DESCRIPTION OF OPERATIONS / LOCATIONS / VEHICLES (ACORD 101, Additional Remarks Schedule, may be attached if more space is required)

Workers Compensation Coverage excludes coverage for: Everett Barnes, Christine Dwyer
Workers Compensation apply to the following States: TX CT GA NH PA VT CO NY OR VA CA AZ FL IL MA

CERTIFICATE HOLDER

CANCELLATION

NH Department of Education
21 South Fruit St, Suite 20
Concord, NH 03301

SHOULD ANY OF THE ABOVE DESCRIBED POLICIES BE CANCELLED BEFORE THE EXPIRATION DATE THEREOF, NOTICE WILL BE DELIVERED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE POLICY PROVISIONS.

AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE

Mike Ross