 **No. 512**

 **SECTION: OPERATIONS**

**TITLE: CONTRACTED SERVICES**

**MEDICAL ACADEMY ADOPTED: 10/8/13**

**CHARTER SCHOOL REVISED:**

 512. CONTRACTED SERVICES

In its effort to provide cost-effective programs, the Board may need to utilize contracted services. The school shall monitor and evaluate such services to assure their effectiveness. This policy is adopted to assist the Board in procuring and maintaining qualified and legally certified services.

**Direct Contact with Children** – the possibility of care, supervision, guidance or control of children or routine interaction with children.

The Board is required by law to ensure that independent contractors and their employees comply with the mandatory background check requirements for criminal history and child abuse.

Independent contractors and their employees shall not be employed until each has complied with the mandatory background check requirements for criminal history and child abuse and the school has evaluated the results of that screening process.

Independent contractors and their employees shall report, on the designated form, all arrests and convictions as specified on the form. Failure to accurately report such arrests and convictions may subject the individual to denial of employment/contract, termination if already hired/contracted, and/or criminal prosecution.

All independent contractors shall adopt policies and procedures that require their employees, who are providing services to the school, to immediately notify the contractor if the employee is arrested for or convicted of any criminal misconduct subsequent to employment. If the contractor receives notice of such arrest or conviction by any of its employees from either the employee or a third party, the contractor shall immediately report that information to the school.

Mandatory background check requirements for criminal history and child abuse shall be included in all bidding specifications for contracted services.

Language shall be included in all bidding specifications for contracted services notifying independent contractors that failure to comply with this policy and the background check requirements by an independent contractor shall lead to cancellation of the contract.

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Independent contractors shall provide their employees who have direct contact with children with mandatory training on child abuse recognition and reporting. The training shall include, but not be limited to, the following topics:

1. Recognition of the signs of abuse and sexual misconduct and reporting

 requirements for suspected abuse and sexual misconduct.

2. Provisions of the Professional Educator Discipline Act, including mandatory

 reporting requirements.

3. School policy related to reporting of suspected abuse and sexual misconduct.

4. Maintenance of professional and appropriate relationships with students.

Employees of independent contractors who have direct contact with children are required to complete a minimum of three (3) hours of training every five (5) years.

References:

School Code – 24 P.S. Sec 111

Child Abuse Recognition and Reporting Training – 24 P.S. Sec. 1205.6

Professional Educator Discipline Act – 24 P.S. Sec. 2070.1a et seq.

State Board of Education Regulations – 22 PA Code Sec. 8.1 et seq.

Child Protective Services Law – 23 Pa. C.S.A. Sec. 6301 et seq.