

CAMBRIDGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

135 Berkshire Street, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02141

20-159



16

June 30, 2020

TO THE HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE:

CONTRACT AWARD: Educational Services

RECOMMENDATION: That the School Committee approves an agreement with the following community partner for an academic enrichment program; funds to be provided from the General Fund.

<u>Contractor</u>	<u>Period of Contract</u>	<u>Amount</u>
CitySprouts 1035 Cambridge Street Cambridge, MA 02141	7/1/20 – 6/30/21	\$127,000.00

DESCRIPTION: This contract is for facilitation of school gardens as an educational resource for teachers' instruction, as well as health and nutrition education.

SUPPORTING DATA: RULES OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE: Chapter III, Section 12..."motions calling for the appropriation or expenditure of money shall require the affirmative vote of four members."

BUDGET REFERENCES:

ACCOUNT:	55107	Instructional Services
FUND:	15000	General Fund
ORG:	842248	Science/Community Partners

PROJ:

Respectfully Submitted,

Kenneth N. Salim, Ed.D.

CS Superintendent of Schools

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION: CitySprouts

Purpose: School Garden Project

Amount of Contract: \$127,000

Description/Scope of Services: The CitySprouts program builds schools' capacity to integrate school gardens as an instructional resource for teachers, an effective and engaging means for food and health education for students, and a unifying center to strengthen school communities and family involvement. CitySprouts serves all Cambridge Public School (CPS) elementary and upper school students (pre-K through 8th grade).

CitySprouts will provide the following services to Cambridge Public Schools from September 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020:

- Oversight of school gardens in elementary and middle schools. CitySprouts staff oversees planning, planting, maintenance and harvest of all CPS schoolyard gardens (and ancillary plots, where appropriate) and facilitate school and community use of the school garden as an educational resource for teachers, children and families. CitySprouts serves as an advocate for schools' outdoor education needs, *raising over \$50,000 for Cambridge school gardens each year.*
- Support for teachers' use of school gardens for instruction. CitySprouts provides all CPS elementary and upper schools with support staff for ten hours per week from September through June. The support staff team enables teachers' use of the school garden across disciplines for instruction in science, literacy and other academic areas. CitySprouts provides additional grade level and all-staff professional development activities for teachers, as requested by each school's leadership.
- Support for students' health and wellness. CitySprouts staff supports teacher and behavior specialists' use of the school garden for students' social emotional and trauma-sensitive learning.
- Out-of-school time programming for middle-school youth. CitySprouts summer and after school program serves 150 middle school youth through programming based at the four Upper School campuses. CitySprouts' Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) service-learning curriculum is designed to ignite young people's interest in science and engineering through the ecosystem of the garden. The curriculum dovetails with students' school year science instruction and mitigates learning loss in the summer. CitySprouts middle school programs are tuition-free for all families. A significant percentage of youth participating in CitySprouts Middle School programs are less-resourced.