

**CHRONOLOGY OF THE AGENDA ITEM**

**RFP 20-187 (Speech-Language Therapy, Occupational Therapy, and Physical Therapy)**

- Extension – continuation; extend the period

Vacancies of therapists have increased nationally over the last few years. No single company has been able to provide enough speech-language pathologists (SLPs), occupational therapists (OTs), and physical therapists (PTs) to cover DeKalb’s needs. DeKalb County School District (DCSD) has been unable to fill all vacancies when employees resign or retire. Currently, there are 55 full-time SLPs and two retired, part-time SLPs who are district employees in addition to the positions currently filled by contracted employees. The cost incurred by these vendors, due to the hourly rate and number of speech-language pathologists, occupational therapists, and physical therapists needed, exceeded \$50,000 for the 2021-22 school year. Year to date 2022-23 cost is approximately \$321,899.21. This amount includes invoice amounts yet to be paid.

It is anticipated that the number of contracted therapists for the 2023-24 school year will increase from the past school year. The number of contracted therapists required may be higher if the District is unable to hire employees as replacements for those who resign or retire from the District.

The chart below provides a historical perspective of the number of contracted staff from each agency that has been required to meet student needs.

**History of Contracted Services for Speech, Occupational, and Physical Therapy**

<b>AGENCY</b>	<b>2022 - 2023</b>	<b>2021-2022</b>	<b>2020-2021</b>	<b>2019-2020</b>
<b>Atlanta Ped. Therapy/Applied Pediatrics</b>	7	6	2	0
<b>Cobb Pediatric</b>	32	22	24	27
<b>Community Rehab Assoc.</b>	1	2	0	0
<b>Comprehensive Therapy</b>	0	1	1	0
<b>*EBS</b>	N/A	14	22	19
<b>EDU Healthcare (Providastaff)</b>	2	1	2	1

<b>Orange Tree</b>	1	1	2	0
<b>PDS/Therapy Spot</b>	4	1	3	0
<b>Progressus Invohealthcare</b>	3	5	8	9
<b>Soliant/TIF Solutions</b>	5	3	2	0
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>56</b>
<b>Financial Impact:</b>	\$608,025.28	\$4,450,271.79	\$4,781,143.84	\$4,141,203.00

**\*EBS is no longer a vendor due to merging with Cobb Pediatrics (The Stepping Stone Group)**