



**JESSE BACON, SUPERINTENDENT**  
ADRIENNE USHER, ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT  
BRANDY HOWARD, CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICER  
TROY WOOD, CHIEF OPERATIONS OFFICER

TO: Dr. Jesse Bacon, Superintendent *JB*  
FROM: Dr. Adrienne Usher, Assistant Superintendent  
DATE: October 11, 2023  
RE: Tides Contract (NGLC) for Professional Services

The attached services agreement with Tides (NGLC) is a required aspect of Bullitt County Public Schools receiving the CRPE School System Innovation Fund (SSIF) Grant that was approved at the September 2023 Board Meeting. We are required to enter into an agreement with CRPE approved technical assistance providers throughout the grant period for assistance in programming and requirements. The cost of this services agreement is \$10,000 and funding is required to come from the CRPE SSIF grant funding. Approval is requested for the services agreement between Tides (NGLC) and Bullitt County Public Schools.

*[Handwritten signature]*  
*10.11.23*

**OUR MISSION IS TO INSPIRE AND EQUIP OUR STUDENTS TO SUCCEED IN LIFE**

**BULLITT COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS IS AN EQUAL EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT INSTITUTION**



**Next Generation Learning Challenges**  
"Enabling and Catalyzing District Change"

# PROPOSED SERVICES FOR ASSESSMENT PRACTICE TRANSFORMATION (CRPE)

**Prepared for: Bullitt County Public Schools**

**October 12, 2023**



[nglc@nextgenlearning.org](mailto:nglc@nextgenlearning.org)



[www.nextgenlearning.org](http://www.nextgenlearning.org)

*"It is necessary to teach by living and speaking those truths which we believe and know beyond understanding" - Audre Lorde*

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## **Contact Us:**

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# INTRODUCTION

## NGLC's VISION

Each student has what they need to fulfill their greatest potential and contribute to building a just, equitable, and sustainable world.

## NGLC's MISSION

NGLC empowers school communities to reimagine and transform the learning experience. Next gen learning schools create brave spaces where each student can develop the academics, life skills, wellness, and citizenship they need to thrive in and positively impact a diverse and rapidly changing world.

## NGLC's CORE CAPACITIES

- Catalyzing innovation through educator-driven research and development
- Supporting redesign through whole change for whole learning
- Designing and supporting educator-led communities of practice that reflect all of the attributes of equitable next gen learning for students
- Amplifying & connecting the voices of innovative educators to inform and shape the direction of school transformation nationally and locally

## NGLC's LABS

- **CATALYZE LAB** - Since we issued our first challenge grant in 2011, NGLC has invested nearly \$100 million in more than 240 visionary efforts and [R&D projects](#) to explore, design, refine, and spread various aspects of next gen learning. NGLC-catalyzed innovators have collectively served hundreds of thousands of students and have emerged as influential national leaders in the transformation of public education toward deeper, broader, 21st-century outcomes for all students. ([EXPLORE OUR CATALYZING EFFORTS](#))
- **APPLY LAB** - NGLC works with an ever-increasing number of communities, schools, and districts to apply what's been learned about equitable, deeper, student-centered learning and how to adopt these approaches most effectively. Our Apply Lab serves individual schools and districts through consulting services and cohorts of like-minded schools through partnerships with philanthropies. We have also launched Bravely, which we're working to grow into a large national network of districts working together, through liberatory, human-centered change processes, to bring next gen learning to their communities. ([DISCOVER NGLC SERVICES](#))
- **AMPLIFY LAB** - Our Amplify Lab informs and builds off of the Catalyze and Apply labs. It's where we illuminate the voices and lessons-learned of next gen innovators to benefit the field of K-12 education. It's also where we synthesize and articulate crucial, building-block concepts in this work—for example, what communities should know as they rethink what learners need, to thrive in a world of change. ([CHECK OUT OUR BLOG & RESOURCES](#))

## OVERARCHING PURPOSE/GOAL(S)

As Bullitt County Public Schools (BCPS) engages in a rethinking of assessment to support the transformation of learning and student outcomes, NGLC is poised to support the specific identified strategy of BCPS's Walton Family Foundation grant on school system innovation. We will explore assessment as a revelation, not destination, and to help students "strengthen their relationships with, and more authentically engage, critical stakeholders or community." BCPS is looking to develop an authentic form of student-growth monitoring and support in 2023-25 that helps to activate the district's reimagined vision of success that the district will fully implement by SY '25-'26.

Through our support of the Bullitt community, we are looking to help move the lever on the following output in BCPS's Walton Family Foundation grant:

- *Demonstration and reflection of growth on student selected 1-2 Graduate Profile competencies with academics through performance-based assessment through a learning exhibition, learning experience activity, defense of learning, and/or student-led conference at the end of the year.*

Specifically: NGLC proposes to serve as BCPS's research and design resource in the district's effort to create a middle-through-high-school mentoring panel that would follow, listen to, evaluate/support, and advocate for students as they advance, using strategies developed through NGLC's [transformation design research](#) on activating change agents, our work on student-growth reflection in our [Full Spectrum of Evidence](#) project, and NGLC's [MyWays](#) project focused on reimagining student success.

## WORK OUTCOMES

- **Outcome 1:** The Bullitt community engages in a deep investigation of the strategies and practices that support next gen assessment practices to inform the development of the mentoring panel.
- **Outcome 2:** The Bullitt community gets support with communication efforts to help decision-making bodies understand current strengths, challenges, gaps, and opportunities in the school and district, to inform the reimagination of the defense of learning as an assessment practice.



# MILESTONES/TIMELINE/COST

The following milestones, timelines, and costs for each option are based on supporting the Bullitt community to support the CRPE grant implementation.

**Contract term:** From date of issuance to June 30, 2024

**Fee:** For a flat fee of \$10,000, NGLC will fulfill the services described in the table below. This fee covers up to 40 hours of NGLC staff time.

**Invoicing Schedule:** Payment will be disbursed upon receipt of invoices from NGLC/TIDES. One invoice will be issued at completion of the work as outlined in the contract.

Next Generation Learning Challenges, a project of Tides Center, agrees to provide the Client with the services listed below:

Service	Service Description	Fee
<b>Outputs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Output 1:</b> Three virtual focus groups (external stakeholders, students, staff) in April 2024 to engage with the community around the ideation phase of this work in order to improve the prototype/pilot for this mentoring panel along the way               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Identification of assessment practices that work or not in the current system</li> <li>○ Introduction to pilot competency work from Envision and checking in on what works, what may not, and how to improve that work</li> <li>○ Presentation of initial ideas for the mentoring panel based on NGLC research</li> </ul> </li> <li>● <b>Output 2:</b> Concise summary of the research and identification of potential models in this area of on-going mentoring panels – not simply one-off committees gathered to review senior capstone projects or other single forms of student exhibition</li> <li>● <b>Output 3:</b> Regular check-ins with a district liaison to navigate assumptions, ideas, and stretch the district’s imagination on the conditions needed for this project to become a reality               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>November 2023 - January 2024:</b> Co-ideation and in-depth understanding of the dream</li> <li>○ <b>February 2024:</b> Development of the focus group process</li> <li>○ <b>March 2024:</b> Identification and referral to potential participants in the focus groups</li> <li>○ <b>April - Mid May 2024:</b> Virtual focus groups (external stakeholders, students, staff) and data analysis</li> <li>○ <b>Mid May - June 2024:</b> Preparation for the formal presentation and co-development of presentation with Bullitt Liaison</li> </ul> </li> <li>● <b>Output 4:</b> A formal presentation to district leads at the culmination of this project that is a representation of the feedback from focus groups and conversations with district leads, with recommendations for full-scale piloting of the mentoring model in 2024-25.</li> </ul>	\$10,000
<b>Cost for Services</b>		<b>\$10,000</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$10,000</b>



## CARLOS' BIO

Carlos is Co-director at Next Generation Learning Challenges (NGLC) where he leads efforts to ensure excellence in program delivery, tools development, internal flow, and organizational learning and serves as the NGLC “practice ambassador.” In this capacity he leads work on special programs focused on transforming schools and grounded on liberatory design.

Prior to joining NGLC, Carlos served as the founding principal at the International High School at Langley Park (IHSLP) in Bladensburg, Maryland. The school serves 100% ELL students (mostly from Central America) who are newcomers to the U.S. In designing and implementing an innovative student-centered school intentionally designed to serve his diverse student body, Carlos and his team created a strong personalized, mastery-based model that leverages a strong advisory program and community partners who provide significant enrichment opportunities for students. The school earned high National and metro-area rankings in the 2021 and 2022 Best High Schools U.S. News and World Report. Prior to founding and launching IHSLP, he was a teacher and an assistant principal at high schools in the Bronx and served as a director of college counseling at College Bound Initiative. A Pahara Fellow and EdLoC member, Carlos has spoken about his work at Johns Hopkins University, George Washington University, and University of Maryland.

Carlos is the recipient of the NYC Teaching Fellowship and the Posse Foundation leadership scholarship. He holds a B.A. from Middlebury College and an M.A. from both CUNY at Lehman College and New York University. He also holds an Ed.D. from the University of Maryland - College Park where his research focused on culturally responsive Mathematics and ELA classrooms in the context of instruction for ELLs. He co-authored a paper for the Rutgers University Reparative Justice, Racial Restoration, and Education Editorial Series titled “Unearthing Hidden Gems in an American Public High School: A Three-Pronged Approach to Meeting the Needs of Diverse Students Through an Equity Lens,” released in August of 2021.







Timestamp	Email Address	School/Program	Please provide what specific program and/or department is the request for, if applicable.	Curriculum Material Name (software, textbooks, instructional materials, support services, etc.)	Please provide applicable research and/or evidence-based findings for this curriculum (What Works ClearingHouse, EdReports, etc.)	Explanation of Curriculum Materials including purpose, when will be utilized, which content/behavior, etc. (link website and/or information)	Provide dates of when a minimum of a 2-week public stakeholder review by staff, parents, and the school community occurred on the school website.	Date when principal consulted/discussed with SBDM Council (if applicable):	Asst. Super/CAO Approval	Board Approval Date					
10/10/2023 11:04:03	amanda.nokes@bulitt.kyschools.us	BLMS	Practical Living/ Ag Program/ Sow-And-Grow Mentor	Generation Genius	<a href="https://www.common Sense.org/education/reviews/generation-genius">https://www.common Sense.org/education/reviews/generation-genius</a> ; 4/5 rating from Commonsense.org; 5/5 community rating	Generation Genius provides fun videos and lessons for Science and Critical Thinking skills. Our Practical Living/AG teacher will utilize these as an extension of classroom lessons.	10/23/23	10/12/2023	Amanda Nokes	AU 10.11.23					
10/10/2023 11:08:18	amanda.nokes@bulitt.kyschools.us	BLMS	Moby Max	Moby Max	Common Sense gives Mobly Max 4 stars	This program assists and progress monitors students in reading and math. We utilize this as a supplement to Special Education programming	10/12/23	10/12/2023	Amanda Nokes	AU 10.11.23					
10/11/2023 10:20:37	tonya.holt@bulitt.kyschools.us	OES	Character Strong - Social Emotional Learning - Schoolwide	Character Strong	Character Strong - This program provides research based curriculum that is focused on developing thoughtful, healthy, and kind human beings while focusing on self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, relationship skills, and responsible decision-making. This program will be purchased through grant funds. Click below for more information. <a href="https://drive.google.com/file/d/1a44AIR93XKcZstxSmZg3li03wryKszZ1/view?usp=sharing">https://drive.google.com/file/d/1a44AIR93XKcZstxSmZg3li03wryKszZ1/view?usp=sharing</a>	Character Strong - This program provides research based curriculum that is focused on developing thoughtful, healthy, and kind human beings while focusing on self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, relationship skills, and responsible decision-making. This program will be purchased through grant funds. Click below for more information. <a href="https://drive.google.com/file/d/1a44AIR93XKcZstxSmZg3li03wryKszZ1/view?usp=sharing">https://drive.google.com/file/d/1a44AIR93XKcZstxSmZg3li03wryKszZ1/view?usp=sharing</a>	October 11 - 25, 2026		Tonya Holt						
10/11/2023 11:59:35	tabbi.echols@bulitt.kyschools.us	EMS	Special Education / MSD	Unique Learning Systems	For research on the efficacy of Unique Learning Systems, please visit: <a href="https://www.n2y.com/blog/research-peer-reviews-for-unique-learning-system#~:text=In%20multiple%20independent%20research%20studies%20%20Unique%20learning%20system,of%20the%20educators%20and%20caregivers%20who%20serve%20them">https://www.n2y.com/blog/research-peer-reviews-for-unique-learning-system#~:text=In%20multiple%20independent%20research%20studies%20%20Unique%20learning%20system,of%20the%20educators%20and%20caregivers%20who%20serve%20them</a>	Unique Learning System is a one-of-kind solution designed specifically to help students with special learning needs master their state's extended standards. From one convenient, cloud-based platform, educators deliver differentiated, standards-aligned content enhanced by powerful assessments, data tools, and evidence-based instructional support. Students from pre-K through transition have the advantage of consistent, high-quality instruction, a motivating interactive learning environment, engaging symbol support, and a path to independence. Unique Learning Systems will be utilized in MSD classrooms.	Oct 11 - 25	10/16/2023	Tabi Echols						
10/11/2023 12:01:43	tabbi.echols@bulitt.kyschools.us	EMS	7th Grade Social Studies	Nearpod	For research on the efficacy of Nearpod, please visit: <a href="https://nearpod.com/blog/press/">https://nearpod.com/blog/press/</a>	Nearpod is a website and app-based digital tool that lets teachers create slide-based learning resources that are interactive for students to engage with and learn from. Nearpod can also use gamification of information to make learning more engaging and fun. It is also built to work well with lots of pre-existing tools, such as Google Slides, Microsoft PowerPoint, and YouTube. Teachers can easily import media to make a lesson quickly and simply using already existing resources.	Oct 11 - 25	10/16/2023	Tabi Echols						
10/16/2023 11:56:16	tara.duley@bulitt.kyschools.us	BEHS	Social Studies	AP Human Geo Online Testbook	<a href="https://www.pearson.com/en-us/subject-catalog/on/col/turni">https://www.pearson.com/en-us/subject-catalog/on/col/turni</a>	A structured learning path to look into the patterns and	08/2023	10/16/2023	Tara Duley						