

Request for Proposal (RFP)

Educational Programming - Curriculum Development

**Red Barn Schoolhouse
Consulting Services for Educational Curriculum Development
Grades K-3**

April 4, 2025

1. Introduction

The Red Barn Schoolhouse is seeking qualified educational consultants to assist with the development of a customized, comprehensive, research-based curriculum for grades K-3. This curriculum will aim to foster academic excellence, align with state and national standards, and support the diverse learning needs of all students. We are looking for a consultant or consulting firm with expertise in elementary education, curriculum design, and instructional strategies.

2. Background

The Red Barn Schoolhouse is committed to providing an exceptional educational experience for its students. Our school philosophy of hands-on learning in the natural world is founded on four pillars of instructional learning:

- Nature-Based Learning
- Project & Inquiry-Based Learning
- Collaborative Instruction
- Integrated Curriculum

Curricula will be developed for ELA, math, science and social studies for the 2025-26 school year, with a particular emphasis on building foundational skills in literacy, mathematics, art and social-emotional learning. The Red Barn Schoolhouse is focused on creating an engaging and inclusive curriculum that promotes the intellectual, emotional, and social growth of students in grades K-3. This includes a place-based orientation and attention to outdoor learning environments.

3. Scope of Work

The selected consultant or consulting firm will be responsible for the following tasks:

- **Curriculum Design and Development:**
Develop a comprehensive K-3 curriculum that integrates standards and provides the structure for learning in the unique indoor and outdoor environment. Create and provide customized material kits for units of study to meet curricula and modification requirements. The curriculum must include the following subject areas:

- Literacy (Reading, Writing, Phonics, etc.)
- Mathematics (Numbers, Operations, Geometry, etc.)
- Social-Emotional Learning (SEL)
- Science (Basic concepts, Inquiry, Hands-on learning)
- Social Studies (Community, Diversity, History, etc.)
- Integration with nature field study, art and community resources

Consultant will work in team with educators and qualified curriculum development specialists to create effective process oriented frameworks for customized curricula material.

- **Instructional Strategies:**

Provide recommendations for best practices in differentiated instruction, including strategies for diverse learners (e.g., students with disabilities, ELLs, gifted students). Develop necessary modifications to lesson plans to accommodate school philosophy and pillars and align with Iowa State Standards. Determine scientific research tools and strategies concerning how to use: field notebooks and reference materials; exhibition and curation resources; natural identification resources; and technological tools, software, keys and on-line resources in efforts to integrate these resources into lessons.

- **Evaluation and Assessment Alignment:**

Recommend formative and summative assessments that align with the curriculum and monitor student progress. Design portfolio development structure as a fundamental assessment tool in addition to other means of student documentation. Provide the structure for internal evaluation to measure how well curriculum materials blend with the Red Barn Schoolhouse's vision and mission and the academic skills within a unique learning environment.

- **Ongoing Support:**

Offer guidance and support during the implementation phase, ensuring alignment and addressing any challenges.

4. Proposal Requirements

Interested consultants or consulting firms should submit a proposal that includes the following:

1. **Company Overview and Qualifications:**

Provide a brief description of your company or background, including your experience with curriculum development for elementary education, particularly grades K-3 . Include any relevant certifications or expertise in state standards, best practices in education, and any previous projects completed.

2. **Proposed Approach and Methodology:**

Outline your proposed approach to developing the K-3 curriculum, including how you plan to engage stakeholders (teachers, parents, administrators), your design process, and how you will ensure the curriculum is both effective, aligned with the Red Barn Schoolhouse's vision and missions and meets educational standards.

3. **Timeline:**

Provide a detailed timeline for the completion of the curriculum development, including key milestones and deliverables.

4. **Cost Proposal:**

Provide a detailed cost for the proposed services, project milestones, and any additional fees.

5. **References:**

Include at least two references from previous clients or school districts who have worked with you on similar curriculum development projects.

5. Evaluation Criteria

Proposals will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Experience and qualifications of the consultant/consulting firm
- Approach and methodology for developing the customized curriculum
- Relevance and alignment with our school's vision and goals
- Cost-effectiveness and value for money
- Feedback from references and past clients

- Alignment with state and national educational standards

6. Submission Instructions

All proposals must be submitted by April 14, 2025, via email to sharono@redbarnschoolhouse.org. Late submissions will not be considered.

Please send all proposals and inquiries to:

Sharon Oamek

Red Barn Schoolhouse

P.O. Box 46, Crescent, IA 51526

402-690-9252

sharono@redbarnschoolhouse.org

7. Timeline for RFP Process

- **RFP Released:** April 7, 2025
- **Proposals Due:** April 14, 2025
- **Finalist Interviews/Presentations:** TBD
- **Consultant Selected:** April 18, 2025
- **Project Start Date:** April 22, 2025

8. Additional Information

The Red Barn Schoolhouse reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and is not obligated to select the lowest bid. All submitted materials will be kept confidential.

We look forward to reviewing your proposal and working together to create an innovative and effective curriculum for our K-3 students.

Sincerely,

Sharon M. Oamek

Governing Board, Vice President

Red Barn Schoolhouse

