

RESOLUTION NO. 27407

WHEREAS, on recommendation of Management, there was presented for approval, Award of three (3)-year Contract to La Petite Academy, Inc., a wholly-owned subsidiary of Learning Care Group (MI) Inc., with two (2) one-year extension options, covering childcare center operation and management at Los Angeles International Airport; and

WHEREAS, in response to a childcare survey conducted by Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA) in June 1996, LAWA found there was a strong need for affordable, quality childcare services for its employees. The contributions by LAWA would translate into a greater benefit to the Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) aviation community as a whole, as parent-employees would not have to take time off from work when childcare is required. The onsite facility is a convenient and cost-effective benefit which supports LAWA's strategic goals by helping to retain those staff who have childcare needs; and

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Van Nuys

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WHEREAS, LAWA built the \$4.3 million First Flight Child Development Center (FFCDC) as the first step in offering affordable, quality childcare to its employees. FFCDC is managed by LAWA's Human Resources Division, and has been operated under contracts with various vendors since its opening in 1998. It is located just north of LAX on Lincoln Boulevard. LAWA owns and maintains the property and building; and

WHEREAS, prior to the COVID-related stay-at-home orders, enrollment at the FFCDC comprised 80 families, of which 16 had more than one child in the facility. LAWA employees made up 16% of the families enrolled and LAX tenant employees made up 38%. The remaining enrollment came from the community (38%) and Los Angeles City employees who work in other City departments (8%); and

WHEREAS, two responses to the Request for Proposals (RFP) were received: one from Bright Horizons and one from Learning Care Group, Inc. (LCG) on behalf of its wholly-owned subsidiary, La Petite Academy, Inc. After a thorough review of the proposal submitted by Bright Horizons, it was determined that it was an offer for consultation services; therefore, LCG was the only proposer that met the requirements set forth in the RFP. LAWA Procurement Services Division found LCG to be responsive to the administrative requirements in the RFP; and

WHEREAS, LAWA staff reviewed the written proposal and qualifications and conducted phone and email interviews with the three out-of-state business references provided by LCG. Staff then conducted an interview with representatives from LCG and a separate interview with a center director from its downtown Los Angeles center. Both interviews provided satisfactory responses and, as a result, it was determined that LCG demonstrated the ability to provide the services as required in the RFP. Furthermore, LCG proposed a modest increase of 5% in tuition rates compared to those charged prior to the center's COVID-related closure; and

WHEREAS, LCG, based in Novi, Michigan, is a private, for-profit corporation that has been in operation since 1967, and is the second largest for-profit childcare provider in North America, with over 930 schools across the country. Sixty-four of LCG's schools are located in Southern California, making them one of the largest early childhood educational providers in the region; and

WHEREAS, LCG, through its subsidiary, La Petite Academy, Inc., proposes to offer a curriculum by age that allows children to grow and develop at their own pace. La Petite Academy, Inc., as the operator of the facility, will provide learning models that focus on the foundations for learning for children from six weeks to five years old (*this was an amendment requested by staff at the Board*



*meeting*). La Petite Academy, Inc. commits to creating a learning environment that encourages inclusion and diversity. Its scope of services prioritizes health and nutrition; an effective hiring, recruitment, and retention process; as well as a collaborative method of transition for previous staff members and students. La Petite Academy, Inc. is experienced in accreditation, licensing, and insurance requirements, and will implement a process in which its Accreditation Team provides resources and guidance throughout the accreditation process and supports post-accreditation activities; and

WHEREAS, LAWA's goal is to resume childcare services within 90 days of execution of the contract, contingent upon National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) accreditation. The NAEYC guidelines state that programs will receive their Accreditation Decision Report within three months of the site visit; however, LAWA staff will ask La Petite Academy, Inc. to request a Provisional Accreditation in an effort to expedite the opening; and

WHEREAS, La Petite Academy, Inc. is required to give the highest enrollment priority and a preferential tuition rate to children of LAWA employees and the second highest enrollment priority to children of LAX tenant companies. Spaces are offered only to the public when no children of LAWA or tenant employees remain on the wait list; and

WHEREAS, following are the tuition rates during the first year of the Contract:

Age Group	LAWA	LAWA Tenants	Community
Infants	\$1,304	\$1,551	\$1,941
Toddlers	\$1,148	\$1,365	\$1,707
Twos	\$1,105	\$1,322	\$1,664
Preschool 1	\$ 966	\$1,148	\$1,434
Preschool 2/Pre-K	\$ 871	\$1,040	\$1,300; and

WHEREAS, tuition rate increases in any subsequent year above 2% must be based on demonstrated substantial increase in the operator's costs and included in the operator's annual budget subject to approval by LAWA. Tuition rate increases above 5% must be mutually agreed upon by LAWA and La Petite Academy, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, upon completion of the second year of the three-year contract term, LAWA staff will review the operator's past evaluations and parent surveys to determine whether to extend the contract for an additional two years; and

WHEREAS, funds for the Contract are available in the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 LAWA Operating Budget in Cost Center 1150039 – Facilities Maintenance Utility Group Budget Administration, Commitment Item 523 – Utilities. Funding for subsequent years will be requested as part of the annual budget process; and

WHEREAS, this action, as a continuing administrative activity, is exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Article II, Section 2.f. of the Los Angeles City CEQA Guidelines; and

WHEREAS, La Petite Academy, Inc. must comply with the provisions of the Living Wage/Worker Retention Ordinances, Affirmative Action Program, and Child Support Obligations Ordinance; and

WHEREAS, La Petite Academy, Inc. must submit a Business Tax Registration Certificate prior to contract execution; and

WHEREAS, La Petite Academy, Inc. must have approved insurance documents, in the terms and amounts required, on file with LAWA prior to issuance of a Notice to Proceed; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Charter Section 1022, staff determined that the work specified on the Contract can be performed more feasibly or economically by an Independent Contractor than by City employees; and

WHEREAS, La Petite Academy, Inc. submitted the Contractor Responsibility Program Questionnaire and Pledge of Compliance, and will comply with the provisions of said program; and

WHEREAS, La Petite Academy, Inc. must be determined by Public Works, Office of Contract Compliance, to be in full compliance with the provisions of the Equal Benefits Ordinance prior to execution of the Contract; and

WHEREAS, La Petite Academy, Inc. will comply with the provisions of the First Source Hiring Program; and

WHEREAS, La Petite Academy, Inc. submitted the Bidder Contributions CEC Form 55, and will comply with its provisions; and

WHEREAS, La Petite Academy, Inc. submitted the Municipal Lobbying Ordinance CEC Form 50, and will comply with its provisions; and

WHEREAS, actions taken on this item by the Board of Airport Commissioners will become final pursuant to the provisions of Los Angeles City Charter Section 373;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Airport Commissioners adopted the amended Staff Report; determined that this action is exempt from CEQA pursuant to Article II, Section 2.f. of the Los Angeles City CEQA Guidelines; found that the work can be performed more economically or feasibly by an independent contractor than by City employees; approved Award of three (3)-year Contract to La Petite Academy, Inc., a wholly-owned subsidiary of Learning Care Group (MI) Inc., with two (2) one-year extension options, covering childcare center operation and management at Los Angeles International Airport; and authorized the Chief Executive Officer, or designee, to execute said Contract with La Petite Academy, Inc. after approval as to form by the City Attorney and approval by the Los Angeles City Council.

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I hereby certify that this Resolution No. 27407 is true and correct, as adopted by the Board of Airport Commissioners at its Regular Meeting held on Thursday, December 16, 2021.



Grace Miguel – Secretary  
BOARD OF AIRPORT COMMISSIONERS