



SCHOOL BOARD ACTION REPORT

DATE: April 24, 2017
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For Introduction: May 17, 2017
For Action: June 7, 2017

1. TITLE

Approval of Annual Head Start Grant

2. PURPOSE

This Board Action Report accepts funding from the Department of Health & Human Services (DHHS) to operate Head Start services in the Seattle Public Schools (SPS) for Federal fiscal year 2017-18.

3. RECOMMENDED MOTION

I move that Seattle Public Schools accepts \$4,508,982 from DHHS/Federal Government to provide Head Start services within SPS for Federal fiscal year 2017-18.

4. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

a. Background

Head Start is a comprehensive child development program that serves children and their families; these are the very families we speak of when we talk about the opportunity gap. The program has the overall goal of increasing the school readiness and social competence of children in low-income families, including homeless, foster care and families receiving Temporary Assistance for Need Families (TANF) or Supplemental Security Income (SSI).

Seattle Public Schools has offered Head Start as part of SPS early childhood services since 1965. In 2013, SPS received a 5-year grant, renewable annually as long as the District is in good standing as a grantee, to continue Head Start services. 2017-18 is the final year of that 5 year grant and the period for which we seek Board approval, per Federal Health & Human Services regulations. The Head Start Policy Council will vote on the grant proposal on May 10, 2017.

Because of the complexities and the timeline of the Federal grant submittal system and the coordination of the school district calendar, the final application materials will not be prepared until mid-July. However, the Board is provided with an outline of the grant and a broad description of the information included in the grant in order to inform its decision.

Also included as an attachment is the Head Start budget that will be incorporated into the new application. It shows grant funding for \$4,508,982, plus non-Federal match requirement, including transportation, volunteer hours, and District-funded professional development, to bring the total Federal budget to \$5,636,228. An additional \$221,574 from the City of Seattle's Seattle Preschool Program (SPP) brings the total budget for Head Start for 2017-18 to \$5,857,802.

b. Alternatives

The alternative is to reject these funds. The impact would be the loss of over \$4 million annually to provide Head Start services in the District.

c. Research

There is considerable evidence on the impact of quality early learning opportunities in the lives of Head Start students and their families, including the following:

Head Start Impact Study, Final Report

https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/opre/executive_summary_final.pdf

The Long-Term Impact of the Head Start Program

<https://www.brookings.edu/research/the-long-term-impact-of-the-head-start-program/>

Favorable Long Term Impacts of Head Start

<http://www.nber.org/digest/aug01/w8054.html>

5. FISCAL IMPACT/REVENUE SOURCE

Fiscal impact to this action will be \$4,508,982.

The fiscal situation is as follows:

We have been receiving Federal funding for part-day Head Start services. Given recent substantial annual increases in staff pay (which makes up 90% of the Head Start budget), our mechanism for meeting our budget needs is to reduce slots. Because we are funded for class sizes of 20 children, our reductions need to be in increments of 20. A reduction of 2 classes (40 slots) would result in 4 fewer site-based staff positions. In addition to those 4 positions, we would reduce JSCEE administrative staff by 1.

Given that one of our JSCEE-based staff is leaving us (moving to another state), we are restructuring those responsibilities (internally to currently existing JSCEE-based staff). So instead of refilling that position, we would keep one of the 4 site staff positions referenced above and reduce our JSCEE staff by an additional position, two overall.

We have also accessed additional funds to support longer class times for 4 classes for next year (80 students). These classes would run 6 hours a day for the entire school year. The additional funds for two of these classes comes from the Federal government. We are accessing funds from the City of Seattle's Seattle Preschool Program (SPP) to support the longer hours for the other

two classes. The longer hours of these Full Day classes will require us to hire 4 new Classroom Assistant positions and the equivalent of 2.0 FTE additional Assistant Teacher positions.

The total staff impact is as follows:

From Federal funds for part day services: - 3 site-based staff; - 2 administrative staff

From Federal funds for full day services: + 3 site-based staff

From City funds for full day services: +3 site-based staff

Total from all funds associated with this grant proposal: +6 site-based staff; -3 site-based staff, -2 administrative staff

The revenue source for this motion is grant funds from the Department of Health & Human Services/Administration for Children and Families.

Expenditure: One-time Annual Multi-Year N/A

Revenue: One-time Annual Multi-Year N/A

6. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

With guidance from the District's Community Engagement tool, this action was determined to merit the following tier of community engagement:

Not applicable

Tier 1: Inform

Tier 2: Consult/Involve

Tier 3: Collaborate

Community engagement is an ongoing process in Head Start. While it resides primarily with Policy Council (which is comprised of current and past Head Start parents as well as community representatives), it also extends to the Head Start parent population as a whole through Parent Center Meetings (the direct link from Policy Council to the parent body as a whole) and through the annual Self Assessment process, which includes a parent survey.

This proposal was developed collaboratively with Board and Policy Council input and will be reviewed by the Policy Council on May 10.

7. EQUITY ANALYSIS

Head Start has used the Racial Equity Analysis Tool to identify access as our key issue. By maintaining classes at 9 elementary schools in three areas of the city, and by reducing slots at sites where we are extending other classes to full day services, we are maintaining maximum access given our funding limits.

8. STUDENT BENEFIT

This action will make Head Start services available to 360 children and their families at 9 elementary schools within the District.

9. WHY BOARD ACTION IS NECESSARY

- Amount of contract initial value or contract amendment exceeds \$250,000 (Policy No. 6220)
- Amount of grant exceeds \$250,000 in a single fiscal year (Policy No. 6114)
- Adopting, amending, or repealing a Board policy
- Formally accepting the completion of a public works project and closing out the contract
- Legal requirement for the School Board to take action on this matter
- Board Policy No. _____, [TITLE], provides the Board shall approve this item
- Other: _____

10. POLICY IMPLICATION

Policy No. 61114, Gifts, Grants, Donations & Fundraising Proceeds, requires Board approval of grants of more than \$250,000.

11. BOARD COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

This motion was discussed at Audit & Finance Committee meeting on May 11. The Committee reviewed the motion and moved this item forward for approval by the full Board.

12. TIMELINE FOR IMPLEMENTATION

This grant becomes operational on November 1, 2017. In the meantime, current grant funds are used to complete the 2016-17 Federal fiscal year.

13. ATTACHMENTS

- Outline of Head Start grant with major changes indicated
- Self Assessment Improvement Plan
- Map describing changes in Head Start services
- 2017-18 projected budget
- Budget line ITEM descriptions