



School Board Briefing/Proposed Action Report

Informational (no action required by Board) **Action Report** (Board will be required to take action)

DATE: March 11, 2016
FROM: Directors Jill Geary and Leslie Harris, School Board

I. TITLE

Amendment #1 to City of Seattle Department of Education and Early Learning/Seattle Preschool Program Service Agreement Amendment 2016-2017

For Action: March 16, 2016

II. FISCAL IMPACT/REVENUE SOURCE

The fiscal impact to this amendment is unknown.

If, in negotiations with regard to the expansion of the additional four (4) preschool classrooms, the 25% performance pay clause is eliminated for some or all of the preschool classrooms, then the impact is potentially positive in that it eliminates the risk associated with the clause. Given the staff's assurances that the risk of losing the 25% is minimal due to performance to date, that performance can be used as a basis to eliminate the need for a performance holdback.

Expenditure: N/A One-time Annual Other Source

III. POLICY IMPLICATION

Board Policy No. 4110, Family & Community Advisory and Oversight Committees, and the accompanying Superintendent Procedure 4110SP, guide the formation of a taskforce.

IV. RECOMMENDED MOTION

I move the School Board amend the motion for Action Item #3, City of Seattle Department of Education and Early Learning/Seattle Preschool Program Service Agreement Amendment 2016-17, to include the following two ~~sentences~~ paragraphs:

In addition, the Board asks that the Superintendent form a taskforce by May 15, 2016, to make recommendations by December 15, 2016 for the 2017-18 Classroom Service Agreement. The 2016-17 Classroom Service Agreement shall be modified to reflect the formation of the taskforce and its charge as set forth below. The taskforce would be asked to make recommendations to the Superintendent regarding, but not limited to:

- a. The elimination of the 25% performance holdback;
- b. An affirmation statement of both parties of their commitment to creating preschools in Seattle that seek out and welcome students regardless of their race, socioeconomic status, social-emotional learning needs or academic ability;

- c. The purposeful outreach to families with the specific intent of creating classrooms with a diverse student population with varying abilities, regardless of whether the classrooms are operated by the District or other community based organizations;
- d. The development of special education inclusion preschool classrooms consistent with the District's goal of offering, at a minimum, a ~~full~~-continuum of educational placements within each middle school feeder area;
- e. A plan for coordination and engagement between the SPP classrooms and the District's developmental preschool classrooms;
- f. Assessment of the financial impact that the preschool classrooms have on the K-12 buildings ~~that may not be accurately reflected in the weighted staffing formulas~~;
- g. Any other provisions that the taskforce identifies as necessary to create high quality and equitable preschools.

V. BOARD COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

This motion was not discussed by a Board Committee.

VI. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

This Amendment is brought to promote collaboration and partnership between the City and the Seattle Public Schools in their stated goal of providing high quality preschool to Seattle's children, which is critical to closing the readiness gap. It recognizes that in addition to race and socioeconomic factors, children with differing emotional regulation and developmental abilities demonstrate an achievement gap that preschool may be effective in closing or eliminating.

Further, this Amendment recognizes that so long as the City and Seattle Public Schools are collaborating in providing preschool city-wide, the preschool services being offered must be delivered equitably in all locations. To this end, Seattle Public Schools has an expectation that the City will hold all of the SPP providers to the same high standards with regard to Civil Rights and equity, and to take affirmative steps to ensure the rights of all children and families are protected regardless of the provider.

This Amendment also acknowledges the District's statement that it has been effective in meeting all the performance standards set out by the City to date and its expectation that it will receive all of the 25% performance holdback in its execution of the Agreement. It is the Board's desire that in the spirit of collaboration, the parties negotiate to eliminate the 25% holdback in all future agreements until such time as the City can demonstrate a reasonable basis for an expectation that the District will be unable to fulfill the agreement's performance measures.

VII. STATEMENT OF ISSUE

Whether to approve Amendment #1

VIII. ALTERNATIVES

Do not approve this amendment. This is not recommended because the Agreement does not adequately ensure the creation and maintenance of an equitable and inclusive Seattle Preschool Program through a respectful and collaborative partnership between Seattle Public Schools and the City of Seattle.

IX. RESEARCH AND DATA SOURCES / BENCHMARKS

N/A.

X. TIMELINE FOR IMPLEMENTATION / COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Upon approval of this motion, the motion for Action Item #3, City of Seattle Department of Education and Early Learning/Seattle Preschool Program Service Agreement Amendment 2016-17, will be amended.

The Superintendent will immediately engage in the formation of a task force pursuant to Policy 4110 and 4110SP.

XI. ATTACHMENTS

N/A