

RESOLUTION NO.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF SAN MATEO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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RESOLUTION: A) APPROVING AN ALLOCATION OF \$1,500,000 FROM THE COUNTY'S GENERAL FUND FOR GRANTS TO QUALIFYING OPERATORS OF LEARNING HUBS TO EXPAND THE AVAILABILITY OF ADDITIONAL LEARNING HUB SLOTS FOR SOCIOECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED STUDENTS IN THE COUNTY; AND B) AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT WITH THE COMMUNITY EQUITY COLLABORATIVE AND THE SMCU COMMUNITY FUND FOR THE DISTRIBUTION AND ADMINISTRATION OF \$1,500,000 FROM THE COUNTY'S GENERAL FUND FOR GRANTS TO QUALIFYING OPERATORS OF LEARNING HUBS TO EXPAND THE AVAILABILITY OF ADDITIONAL LEARNING HUB SLOTS FOR SOCIOECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED STUDENTS IN THE COUNTY, WITH A TERM ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2021, AND AUTHORIZING THE PAYMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE FEES IN A TOTAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$6,000

RESOLVED, by the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Mateo, State of California, that:

WHEREAS, on March 3, 2020, and pursuant to Section 101080 of the California Health and Safety Code, the San Mateo County Health Officer (the "Health Officer") declared a local health emergency throughout San Mateo County related to the novel coronavirus ("COVID-19") and the Board of Supervisors has ratified and extended this local health emergency, which remains in effect throughout San Mateo County; and

WHEREAS, on March 3, 2020, and pursuant to Section 8630 of the California Government Code and Chapter 2.46 of the San Mateo County Ordinance Code, the San Mateo County Director of Emergency Services proclaimed a local emergency throughout San Mateo County related to COVID-19 and the Board has ratified and extended the proclamation of a local emergency ("Local Emergency"), which remains in effect; and

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2020, Governor Newsom issued a Proclamation of State of Emergency related to COVID-19 ("State of Emergency"), effective throughout the State of California; and

WHEREAS, on March 14, 2020, the Health Officer prohibited all public or private gatherings of 50 or more people and urged the cancelation of all gatherings of 10 or more people in a single confined space; and

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, the Health Officer issued an order that, among other things, directed all individuals living within San Mateo County to shelter in their place of residence (“Original Shelter-in-Place Order”), and authorized individuals to leave their residences only for certain “Essential Activities,” Essential Governmental Functions,” or to operate “Essential Businesses,” all as defined in the Original Shelter-in Place-Order; and

WHEREAS, several times since March 16, 2020, and most recently, on June 4, 2020, the Health Officer issued revised Shelter-in-Place Orders extending the Original Shelter-in-Place Order due to evidence of continued significant community transmission of COVID-19 within the County and throughout the Bay Area; and

WHEREAS, on March 19, 2020, Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-33-20, which, imposed a Statewide Shelter-In-Place Order requiring individuals to remain in their places of residence except as needed to maintain continuity of operations of critical infrastructure, access necessities such as food, prescriptions and healthcare, or engage in other authorized activities; and

WHEREAS, on May 8, 2020, Governor Newsom announced a plan to allow the limited reopening of some businesses beyond those in the category of essential critical infrastructure, which is part of the "Resilience Roadmap" for California, the multiphase plan to modify the Statewide Shelter-In-Place Order; and

WHEREAS, on June 16, 2020, the State approved the County’s request for a variance allowing the County to align with the Resilience Roadmap for California; and

WHEREAS, on June 17, 2020, the Health Officer rescinded the June 4, 2020 revised Shelter-in-Place Order and replaced it, effective immediately, with a new order aligning the County with the Statewide Shelter-in-Place Order/Resilience Roadmap, emphasizing individual behavior and the practices that businesses must follow as they resume operations, including limiting gatherings to no more than 50 people, outlining social distancing and face covering requirements, allowing for social bubbles, and requiring businesses to implement a social distancing protocol and written health and safety plans, based on evidence of continued significant community transmission of COVID-19 within the County and throughout the Bay Area and the Health Officer will continue to update San Mateo County orders to align with State guidelines; and

WHEREAS, due to an unprecedented surge in COVID-19 cases, effective December 17, 2020, the State issued a Regional Stay at Home Order for the entire Bay Area region, which includes the County, and that Regional Stay at Home Order remains in place; and

WHEREAS, as of January 20, 2021, there have now been over 3,000,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases across the State, with over 35,000 deaths, and 33,207 confirmed cases in the County, with 309 deaths; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 public health emergency has kept many K-12 schools in San Mateo County in distance and/or hybrid learning modes and has severely and negatively impacted the academic performance and mental health of many students; and

WHEREAS, the current circumstances have been particularly challenging for students from socioeconomically disadvantaged families, many of whom face home

environments with significant distractions, internet connectivity issues, the need to share devices among multiple family members, and reduced direct adult supervision; and

WHEREAS, even before the COVID-19 pandemic, a well-documented opportunity gap existed between socioeconomically disadvantaged (“SED”) students and their peers in San Mateo County, an opportunity gap that has widened dramatically under COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, while some of San Mateo County’s public schools and districts were able to resume in-person learning this fall, these schools largely serve middle- and upper-income communities; and

WHEREAS, even where students from middle- and upper-income communities remain in distance learning, they often have access to more support than SED students, including increased levels of supervision from parents who are able to work from home or in-home child care, reliable internet access, quiet spaces to study, access to informal parent-led study groups, and even in some cases private tutors; and

WHEREAS, without access to adequate support, the County’s SED students risk learning loss the impact of which will extend far beyond the duration of the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, in response to this ever-widening opportunity gap, many youth-serving organizations in underserved communities launched “learning hubs,” which are safe, supportive places for K-12 students to engage in distance learning; and

WHEREAS, recognizing the critical role played by learning hubs for SED students, Thrive, the Alliance of Nonprofits for San Mateo County (“Thrive”), created the Out-of-School-Time (“OST”) Task Force, a coalition of learning hub providers, school districts,

and community partners, and, in December 2020, Thrive joined with the Community Equity Collaborative and the San Mateo County COVID-19 Child Care Response Team to launch The Learning Hubs Initiative of San Mateo County (“Initiative”) to raise awareness about, advocate for, and support, learning hub programs in the County; and

WHEREAS, to date, San Mateo County’s learning hubs have been funded through a combination of federal, state, and local governmental resources, community-based contributions, and tuition/fees paid by participating families, but even with this braided financial support learning hub programs are only resourced to serve a fraction of the estimated 32,000 SED students in the County who could benefit from such programs; and

WHEREAS, though San Mateo County school districts remain focused on returning to safe, in-person instruction, the learning hubs infrastructure will remain critical for the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year, and possibly beyond; and

WHEREAS, the Board desires to create a grant program to support and expand the learning hub system (“Learning Hubs Expansion Fund”), which, in addition to providing critical short-term financial support, will help strengthen the collaboration between public and community agencies, a collaboration that will remain critical post-COVID as SED students attempt to overcome pandemic-related learning loss and recover academically, socially, and emotionally; and

WHEREAS, the Learning Hubs Expansion Fund program was developed in collaboration with child care, out-of-school care, and youth-facing experts and advocates throughout the County, and is modeled on the San Mateo County COVID-19 Child Care Relief Fund established by the Board in July 2020; and

WHEREAS, the County intends to contract with both the Community Equity Collaborative (“Collaborative”) and SMCU Community Fund (“Community Fund”) to administer the Learning Hubs Expansion Fund grant program with input from the Learning Hub Initiative Advisory Committee, which includes representatives of the Board of Supervisors, County Manager’s Office, and the San Mateo County COVID-19 Child Care Response Team (which itself includes representatives from First 5 San Mateo County, San Mateo County Office of Education, Child Care Partnership Council, Silicon Valley Community Foundation, 4Cs of San Mateo County, and Build Up for San Mateo County’s Children); and

WHEREAS, the term of the contract with the Collaborative and Community Fund will be through December 31, 2021, with \$1,500,000 in grant funds to be disbursed and administrative fees totaling \$6,000 payable to the Collaborative and the Community Fund; and

WHEREAS, eligibility for grants from the Learning Hubs Expansion Fund will be limited to non-profit providers and public entities (such as cities and school districts) that commit to using grant funds to expand the number of available learning hub slots for SED students and that meet the following threshold requirements:

- Currently operate a learning hub (or operated a learning hub during the 2020-2021 school year) in San Mateo County;
- Serve K-12 students whose schools are expected to remain in distance learning (including in hybrid models that include a distance learning component) due to COVID-19;
- Operate during traditional K-12 school hours;

- Provide students free access to WiFi;
- Include on-site adult supervision to support learning and assist with student technology needs;
- Allow for safe socialization with peers in compliance with existing state and local COVID-19 guidelines;
- Serve primarily (50% or more) SED students, defined as students whose annual family income is less than 80% of the Area Median Income (i.e. \$139,400 annual income for a family of 4); and
- Will increase the number of available learning hub slots for SED students, as defined above; and

WHEREAS, grants under the Learning Hubs Expansion Fund will be distributed broadly throughout the County according to a weighted point system that prioritizes applicant programs that meet the following criteria:

- 75% or more of the students served in the program are SED students, as defined above;
- 75% or more of the students served in the program are in grades K-8;
- A significant number of the students served in the program are English-language learners, students with special needs, students in the foster care system, and/or students experiencing homelessness;
- The program is operating with the support of the local school district that serves students who participate in the program;

- The program provides participating students with meals and/or other supports (such as mental health services);
- The program currently has students on a waitlist; and
- The program currently has access to the staffing and facilities required to expand hub learning slots; and

WHEREAS, grant amounts under the Learning Hubs Expansion Fund will be based on the number of additional learning hubs slots proposed to be added by the successful applicants, who, at the end of the grant period, will be required to submit a written report detailing their expansion of learning hub slots using grant funds; and

WHEREAS, though the Learning Hubs Expansion Fund (\$1,500,000) and contract to administer and distribute the Fund (\$6,000), which combined total \$1,506,000, will be initially funded with County General Fund monies, such monies are subject to the application of and potential reimbursement from state and/or federal funds that may be made available in connection with the County's response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY DETERMINED AND ORDERED THAT the Board allocates \$1,500,000 to the Learning Hubs Expansion Fund, in accordance with the terms and intent of this resolution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the County Manager, or designee(s), is authorized and directed to enter into an agreement with the Collaborative and Community Fund to administer and distribute the Learning Hubs Expansion Fund in accordance with the terms and intent of this resolution, with \$1,500,000 in grants funds to be disbursed, a term ending December 31, 2021, and total administrative fees paid to the Collaborative and Community Fund in a total amount not to exceed \$6,000.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the County Manager, or designee(s), is hereby authorized to enter into amendments which modify the County's maximum fiscal obligation by no more than \$25,000 (in aggregate), and/or modify the term and/or services so long as the modified term or services is/are within the current or revised fiscal provisions.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the County Manager, or designee(s), is hereby authorized to apply state and/or federal funds that may be made available in connection with the County's response to the COVID-19 pandemic to reimburse the County's General Fund for all or a portion of monies expended on the Learning Hubs Expansion Fund, including all General Fund monies allocated for grants under the Learning Hubs Expansion Fund and all fees paid to the Collaborative and Community Fund to administer and distribute the Learning Hubs Expansion Fund.

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