



County of San Mateo

Inter-Departmental Correspondence

Department: HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY

File #: 23-952

Board Meeting Date: 12/5/2023

Special Notice / Hearing: None
Vote Required: Majority

To: Honorable Board of Supervisors

From: Claire Cunningham, Director, Human Services Agency

Subject: **Measure K:** Agreements and Amendments to Agreements with School Districts and Preschool Providers for The Big Lift

RECOMMENDATION:

Measure K: Adopt a resolution authorizing agreements and amendments to agreements with the following school districts and preschool programs for the purpose of operating The Big Lift early learning initiative to reduce learning loss, increase kindergarten readiness, and grow third grade reading proficiency in San Mateo County, and authorizing the Director of the Human Services Agency, or designee, acting in consultation with the County Attorney's Office, to negotiate and enter into the following agreements and amendments:

- A) Agreement with the City of South San Francisco for the term July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024 in an amount not to exceed \$220,000; and
- B) Agreement with the City of Menlo Park for the term July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024 in an amount not to exceed \$140,000; and
- C) Agreement with the Institute for Human and Social Development, Inc., for the term July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024 in an amount not to exceed \$556,000; and
- D) Agreement with the Coastside Children's Program for the term July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024 in an amount not to exceed \$160,000; and
- E) Agreement with Peninsula Family Service for the term July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024 in an amount not to exceed \$296,000; and
- F) Amendment to the Agreement with La Honda-Pescadero Unified School District, increasing the not-to-exceed amount by \$140,000 to a new not-to-exceed amount of \$231,055, and extending the term through June 30, 2024; and

- G) Amendment to the Agreement with the Redwood City School District, increasing the not-to-exceed amount by \$386,596 to a new not-to-exceed amount of \$497,194, and extending the term through June 30, 2024; and
- H) Amendment to the Agreement with Jefferson Elementary School District, increasing the not-to-exceed amount by \$706,293 to a new not-to-exceed amount of \$979,291, and extending the term through June 30, 2024; and
- I) Amendment to the Agreement with South San Francisco Unified School District, increasing the not-to-exceed amount by \$600,000 to a new not-to-exceed amount of \$968,047, and extending the term through June 30, 2024; and
- J) Amendment to the Agreement with Cabrillo Unified School District, increasing the not-to-exceed amount by \$193,900 to a new not-to-exceed amount of \$328,185, and extending the term through June 30, 2024; and
- K) Amendment to the Agreement with San Bruno Park School District, increasing the not-to-exceed amount by \$259,838 to a new not-to-exceed amount of \$376,786, and extending the term through June 30, 2024.

BACKGROUND:

In 2012, the Peninsula Partnership Leadership Council (PPLC) - a coalition of government, education, nonprofit, foundation, and business leaders in San Mateo County - launched “The Big Lift” to significantly improve children’s third grade reading proficiency through strategic, thoughtful, evidence-based investments in early learning and education. The Big Lift is a collective impact collaborative led by three agencies - San Mateo County Office of Education (COE), Silicon Valley Community Foundation (SVCF), and the County of San Mateo (County).

The Big Lift focuses on seven San Mateo County communities where third grade reading proficiency scores are close to or below average. Communities are defined by school district boundaries and include the following school districts: Cabrillo Unified, Jefferson Elementary, South San Francisco Unified, San Bruno Park Elementary, La Honda-Pescadero Unified, Redwood City, and Ravenswood City.

The Big Lift is based on evidence-based interventions including:

1. A comprehensive school readiness strategy focused on high-quality preschool for 3 and 4 year olds that leads to an aligned and sequenced set of high-quality learning experiences in kindergarten through third grade;
2. A focus on reducing chronic absence in the early grades;
3. Developing inspiring summer learning opportunities that enable children to maintain their academic and developmental gains; and
4. Supporting parents and caregivers as children’s first and most influential teachers to provide rich learning environments in the home.

DISCUSSION:

As part of The Big Lift, participating school districts and preschool programs agree to work toward the following goal areas:

1. The Big Lift activities are aligned from preschool through third grade, and the community is making steady progress towards third grade reading proficiency for all children.
2. Children are prepared for kindergarten with the social-emotional, academic, linguistic, and physical foundations they need to be successful.
3. Families understand the importance of and prioritize attendance in preschool and early elementary school.
4. Participating children maintain or improve reading proficiency over the summer and are engaged in inspiring learning experiences.
5. Families have the tools and information they need to promote literacy at home, support and advocate for their children’s wellbeing and academic success.
6. Evaluation efforts demonstrate the effectiveness of The Big Lift approach and interventions. Child-level assessments inform curriculum and identify each child’s unique needs.

Six of the school districts provided The Big Lift Inspiring Summers (BLIS) programs and have current contracts, which are being amended to include the P-3 Literacy and Collective Program portion of The Big Lift that happens throughout the school year. The other five agreements are new and include only the P-3 Literacy and Collective Program portion of The Big Lift.

PERFORMANCE MEASURE:

Measure	FY 2023-24 Target
Percent of classrooms in their first year of implementation of SEEDS (an evidence-based framework for providing early literacy instruction and tiered supports in preschool) strategies will achieve a minimum of 1.5 out of 3 overall score (“emerging”) on implementation fidelity	80%
Percent of classrooms in their second year of implementation of SEEDS strategies will achieve a minimum of 2.0 out of 3 overall score (“accurate”) on implementation fidelity	80%
Increase in the percent of children meeting age-appropriate benchmarks on the PELI (assessment of early literacy skills in preschool) literacy assessment between fall and spring in classrooms served by Early Learning Corps	30% increase

The County Attorney’s Office has reviewed and approved the agreements, amendments, and resolution as to form. Staff is requesting that the Board authorize the Director of the Human Services Agency, acting in consultation with the County Attorney’s Office, to negotiate and enter into the agreements and amendments to the agreements for the terms and in the amounts identified in the recommendation section of this memorandum.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The total combined amount of the twelve agreements and amendments is \$4,752,558, all of which is **Measure K** funding. **Measure K** funding is included in the Human Services Agency’s FY 2023-24 Adopted Budget. There is no Net County Cost associated with these agreements and amendments.