



County of San Mateo

Inter-Departmental Correspondence

Department: HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY

File #: 23-938

Board Meeting Date: 11/14/2023

Special Notice / Hearing: None
Vote Required: Majority

To: Honorable Board of Supervisors

From: Claire Cunningham, Director, Human Services Agency

Subject: **Measure K:** Agreement with the San Mateo County Office of Education for The Big Lift

RECOMMENDATION:

Measure K: Adopt a resolution authorizing the execution of an agreement with the San Mateo County Office of Education for The Big Lift for the term July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024, in an amount not to exceed \$1,704,118.

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 the San Mateo County Office of Education (SMCOE) 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 the County 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 one of the lead agencies for The Big Lift, the SMCOE plays a major role in the success of the **Measure K** initiative. SMCOE will provide the following in support of The Big Lift goals:

- 1) Work collaboratively with the County and San Mateo County Libraries to provide leadership to the initiative, support collective impact activities, and coordinate the four evidence-based interventions;
- 2) Support up to approximately 95 preschool programs and classrooms in the seven (7) communities to improve quality and work collaboratively with k-12 and community partners with the ultimate goal of improving kindergarten readiness rates for low-income children;
- 3) Expand strategies that are leading to increased kindergarten readiness rates among The Big Lift programs;
- 4) Oversee data collection, data systems, initiative evaluation and data driven improvements for all elements of The Big Lift; and
- 5) Provide training, technical assistance, and family engagement supports to The Big Lift preschool programs, to support optimal child development and build a culture of literacy in the home.

SMCOE has agreed to fund the new Big Lift Executive Director position, which will be housed in the Human Services Agency. A total of \$220,993 has been deducted from the personnel costs for SMCOE included in this agreement.

The County Attorney's Office has approved the resolution and agreement as to form.

PERFORMANCE MEASURE:

Measure	FY 2023-24 Target
Percent of classrooms in their first year of implementation of SEEDS strategies that 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 that achieve a minimum of 2.0 out of 3 overall score ("accurate") on implementation fidelity	80%
Percent increase in children meeting age-appropriate benchmarks on the PELI literacy assessment between fall and spring in classrooms served by Early Learning Corps.	30%

FISCAL IMPACT:

The total amount of the agreement is \$1,704,118 for the term July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024. Of this amount, \$250,000 will be funded through a State grant for The Big Lift. The remaining \$1,454,118 will be paid for through **Measure K** funding and has been included in the Human Services Agency FY 2023-24 Adopted Budget.