



Recommendation for Action

File #: 21-1976, **Agenda Item #:** 24.

6/3/2021

Posting Language

Authorize negotiation and execution of an interlocal agreement with Pflugerville Independent School District for the provision of startup costs for one new Pre-Kindergarten classroom to expand affordable high quality early childcare options for Austin/Travis County residents, with a three-month term, in an amount not to exceed \$16,000.

Lead Department

Austin Public Health.

Fiscal Note

Funding in the amount of \$16,000 is available in the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Austin Public Health Operating Budget.

Prior Council Action:

April 25, 2019 - Council approved the negotiation and execution of an interlocal agreement with Del Valle Independent School District for the provision of startup costs for four new Pre-Kindergarten classrooms to expand affordable high-quality early care and education options for Austin/Travis County residents, on an 11-0 vote.

For More Information:

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Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action:

April 11, 2018 - The Early Childhood Council recommended for Council consideration all items developed by the work group responding to Council Resolution 20170928-057, including "Leverage up to \$112,000 in State funding per classroom per year by investing in one-time startup costs associated with setting up new Pre-K 3 classrooms, including up to eight classrooms in Austin Independent School District and up to 3 classrooms in Pflugerville Independent School District."

Additional Backup Information:

On September 28, 2017, City Council approved Resolution No. 20170928-057, which directed the compilation of information related to community data, equity gaps, and potential policies and resources that could provide opportunities to expand existing affordable high-quality childcare services and access to Pre-K. One of the twelve deliverables was to consider the availability of Pre-K programs and provide funding options for the start-up costs to expand Pre-K programs in the Austin Independent School District and surrounding school districts that enroll Austin children.

As part of the efforts to respond to Resolution No. 20170928-057, Austin Public Health and community work group members worked with school districts that served Austin children to determine the current level of Pre-K services and gauge capacity for potential expansion opportunities for Pre-K. Each investment of \$16,000 covers the start-up costs for a new Pre-K classroom. Once start-up costs are covered, the school district can

cover the cost of the teacher by drawing down Average Daily Attendance (also referred to as ADA) funding from the state. Pflugerville Independent School District will open a self-contained three-year-old special education classroom and hold two half-day sessions with up to 10 students in each session. The school district will draw down \$3,600 for each student served in the new classrooms.

Investing in Pre-K is aligned with the community's Success By 6 Strategic Plan for Austin/Travis County for 2019-2023, which includes the following strategies for Early Childhood Education related to Pre-K:

- Increase the number of eligible three and four-year-old children enrolled in Public Pre-K in Travis County school districts and other high-quality early education settings.

Strategic Outcome(s):

Health and Environment and Economic Opportunity & Affordability.