



Memo

To: Commissioners, First 5 Ventura County
From: Petra Puls, Director of Program and Evaluation
Date: May 21, 2015
Re: Recommendation to grant authority to Executive Director to enter into a fixed asset contract with the Hueneme School District for a preschool facility

Background

The Hueneme/South Oxnard NfL has been working on expanding preschool opportunities since its inception and has helped create more than 200 new spaces over the years through one-time investments in facilities, playground, classroom set-up and on-going operating funds for 72 spaces.

Despite significant gains in the number of preschool spaces, too few children within the Hueneme School District area have access to high quality preschool. Approximately 60% of children enter Kindergarten without prior preschool experience. A recent survey conducted by the NfL also illustrated the need and interest of parents for additional preschool opportunities.

During FY 2014-15, new funding for California State Preschool Programs (CSPP) was released and the Hueneme/South Oxnard NfL successfully partnered with one of its current preschool implementation partners, Child Development Inc. (CDI), on securing new CSPP funding. Of the 72 NfL funded preschool spaces, 46 were converted mid-year to CSPP spaces, resulting in \$96,800 in NfL savings. The same number of CSPP spaces will be maintained in FY 2015-16, resulting in \$175,973 NfL savings for this upcoming fiscal year.

Redirecting savings from converting Hueneme/South Oxnard NfL funded spaces to CSPP funded spaces from FY 2014-15 and FY 2015-16 would allow the NfL to fund the construction of a portable facility for preschool programming.

Resources	Amount	Original NfL contract amount	Revised NfL Contract amount
FY 2014-15 Preschool savings	\$96,800	\$745,985	\$649,185
FY 2015-16 Preschool savings	\$175,973	\$745,985	\$570,012
Bard Fixed Asset Contract	\$272,773	N/A	\$272,773
Total	\$272,773	\$1,491,970	\$1,491,970

The Hueneme School District is able to provide land at the Bard Elementary school for a new preschool facility and CDI is committed to bring CSPP funding for 72 new preschool spaces to the partnership.

Recommendation

The recommended action would grant authority to the Executive Director to enter into a fixed asset contract with the Hueneme School District to purchase and install a portable building at Bard Elementary school for preschool classrooms, for an amount not to exceed \$272,773. No new allocations would be required as the recommended action would redirect funding from the current FY 2014-15 and FY 2015-16 Hueneme/South Oxnard Neighborhood for Learning contracts.