

CITY OF OAKLAND 2008 NOV 20 PM 1:18
AGENDA REPORT

TO: Office of the City Administrator
ATTN: Dan Lindheim
FROM: Department of Human Services
DATE: December 2, 2008

RE: **A Resolution Authorizing The City Administrator To Amend The Measure Y Grant Agreement With Oakland Unified School District (OUSD) For An Additional \$44,016 For Fiscal Year 2008-09, Resulting In A Total Contract Amount Of \$277,348, To Provide Violence Prevention Curricula (Second Step And Too Good For Violence) To Middle Schools**

SUMMARY

This report requests the City Council approve a resolution authorizing the City Administrator to amend the Measure Y grant agreement with Oakland Unified School District (OUSD) in the amount of an additional \$44,016 for Fiscal Year 2008-09, resulting in a total contract amount of \$277,348 to provide violence prevention curricula (Second Step and Too Good for Violence) at all OUSD middle schools, bringing implementation to all Pre-K through 8th grade classrooms.

FISCAL IMPACT

The funds for the additional amount of \$44,016 will be appropriated from four funding sources:

- 1) \$20,204 from Measure Y Fund (2251), DHS Administration Organization (78111), 2007-2008 Measure Y Second Step Project (G310360),
- 2) \$7,855 from Measure Y Fund (2251), DHS Administration Organization (78111), 2007-2008 Measure Y Peer Conflict Resolution Project (G310358),
- 3) \$7,978.50 from District 2 pay-go funds (General Purpose Fund 1010)
- 4) \$7,978.50 from Measure Y Fund (2251), DHS Administration Organization (78111), Reserve Fund (G261273)

The pay-go funds will be used for books and materials only.

There is no impact to the General Fund.

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BACKGROUND

City Council has approved Measure Y funding for the implementation of violence prevention curricula (Second Step and similar curricula) at all pre-school, elementary, and middle schools in OUSD since Fiscal Year 2005-2006. For Fiscal Year 2008-2009, City Council reallocated \$50,000 in funding from OUSD's middle school implementation of the Second Step curriculum, to Attitudinal Healing Connection to expand the pilot Restorative Justice Program at Cole Middle School to other middle schools. (Resolution No. 81496 C.M.S.), leaving a gap in the OUSD violence prevention curricula funding. City Council approved the amount of \$233,332 for OUSD's 2008-2009 violence prevention curricula for Head Start, Pre-K through 5th grade implementation only. In order to fully implement the violence prevention program across 20 middle schools throughout the 2008-09 school year, an additional \$44,016 is required.

Due to delays in program implementation, not all of OUSD's 2007-2008 Measure Y funding was expended, leaving \$28,059 at the end of the school year. Typically, carry-forward amounts from grantees are placed in the Measure Y reserve. However, when Measure Y contract renewals were presented on June 10, 2008, Council indicated a willingness to make a one-time exception of 2007-2008 carry-forward funds being allocated to 2008-2009 to help address the lack of funding for middle school implementation. Additionally, Councilmembers Kernighan and Quan agreed that the remaining amount of \$15,957 be funded from PayGo accounts (\$7,978.50 each). Since that time, it has been determined that the only PayGo funds Councilmember Quan has remaining are restricted for capital expenses only. Therefore, Councilmember Quan's half (\$7,978.50) is being recommended to be taken from the Measure Y reserve.

KEY ISSUES AND IMPACTS

OUSD's carryforward amount for Fiscal Year 2007-08 is the result of a delay in hiring - coaches were not hired until late Fall 2007. Once the coaches were hired, there were several delays in getting them started at the school sites. Coaches are consultants and only bill for performed service hours. Consequently, \$28,059 of anticipated consultant pay was not encumbered by the end of the 2007-08 school year.

The \$44,016 additional funds requested will be used to hire three coaches to implement violence prevention curriculum at 20 middle schools, as well as the purchase of new Second Step curriculum materials for five schools and new Too Good for Violence student workbooks for fifteen schools. This will permit OUSD to maintain the full implementation of violence prevention curricula, targeted to serve 7,515 middle school students. Actions have been taken by OUSD including the pre-order of materials and development of expanded coaches' contracts so that implementation can begin promptly.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Second Step Curriculum is a nationally renowned social-emotional learning program designed by the Committee for Children¹. Several Federal offices, including the U.S. Department of Education and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse Mental Health Services, have ranked *Second Step* as a model program. The curriculum teaches empathy, impulse control, problem solving, and anger management in order to decrease aggression and increase pro-social behavior among children. The acquisition of positive social skills enables children to identify their own feelings, acknowledge the feelings of others, and express themselves appropriately.

VPPSA provides funding to support on-going implementation of Second Step Violence Prevention Curriculum in Oakland Unified School District (OUSD) pre-schools, Oakland Head Start Centers, Family Child Care Centers and Even Start Program, as well as OUSD middle and elementary schools. More than 20,000 children and youth will have the opportunity to learn skills that will help them choose appropriate behaviors and deal with conflict. The City's support of the Second Step Parent education component will make as many as 400 Oakland parents and caregivers aware of the Second Step curriculum and methods to reinforce what their children are learning at school.

At OUSD, suspensions for fighting in elementary schools using Second Step dropped 62%, versus a 4% increase in elementary schools not using the curriculum. In Second Step middle schools, suspensions for violent offenses were reduced by 43% versus only an 8% reduction for the same category in the non-Second Step middle schools. Teacher survey results indicate that *Second Step* contributes to students staying more on task and gives teachers more time for teaching academics.

5 Safe Passages Middle Schools to implement *Second Step*:

1. Edna Brewer
2. Peralta Creek (Grade 8)* (at former Calvin Simmons campus)
3. United for Success (at former Calvin Simmons campus)
4. Frick
5. ROOTS International Academy (at former Havenscourt campus)

Too Good for Violence (TGFV) is a school-based violence prevention/character education program that improves student behavior and minimizes aggression. TGFV helps students in kindergarten through 12th grade learn the skills they need to get along peacefully with others. In both content and teaching methods, the program teaches students positive attitudes, beliefs, and behaviors. It builds skills sequentially and at each grade level provides developmentally appropriate curricula designed to address the most significant risk and protective factors. TGFV

¹ Committee for Children is a Seattle-based nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting the safety, well-being, and social development of children.

promotes what it calls a “C.A.R.E.–ing” approach to violence prevention by teaching Conflict resolution, Anger management, Respect for self and others, and Effective communication. Since TGFV was first implemented in 1996, it has been used in approximately 2,000 school districts nationwide and has reached an estimated 5 million students.

The program consists of student curricula with nine 30- to 45-minute lessons for sixth through eighth grade. Trained teachers, counselors, or prevention specialists deliver the program in classrooms with 20 to 35 students. Each grade-level kit includes everything needed for successful implementation: a scripted curriculum, workbooks, and teaching materials such as posters, games, CDs, and visual aids. Each lesson includes rationale, objectives, character education traits, a materials list, recommended resources, and suggestions for lesson extensions. Curricula also include *Home Workouts: Information and Exercises for Parents and Kids*, to be copied and sent home. TGFV also includes supplemental activities (lesson extenders that can be used to infuse violence prevention/character education skills into subject areas such as music, physical education, and language arts) as well as community activities, recommended books, videos, and other resources. The program’s highly interactive teaching methods encourage students to bond with prosocial peers and engage students through role-playing, cooperative learning, games, small-group activities, and class discussions. TGFV teaches that each student has what it takes to solve conflicts peaceably and provides opportunities to practice peacemaking and antibullying skills.

15 Middle Schools to implement *Too Good for Violence*:

1. Alliance Academy (at former Elmhurst campus)
2. Elmhurst Community Prep (at former Elmhurst campus)
3. Claremont
4. Cole (Grade 8)*
5. Coliseum College Prep Academy (@ former Havenscourt campus)
6. Explore
7. Bret Harte
8. Madison
9. Melrose Leadership
10. Montera
11. Roosevelt
12. Urban Promise Academy
13. West Oakland Middle School (WOMS)
14. Westlake
15. Alternative Learning Community

*Peralta Creek and Cole have only 8th grade students in 08-09. The others have grades 6-8.

If this resolution is approved, OUSD middle school violence prevention classes will be on schedule for 2008-09 school year. The following activities have either taken place or are planned, in order to ensure that implementation is kept on schedule:

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Sept 2008

- Too Good for Violence coach has begun teacher/staff training in 7 of the middle schools, with previous TGFV curriculum;
- New Too Good For Violence workbooks have been ordered;
- Two additional coaches have been identified and are ready for hire (one Second Step, one Too Good for Violence).
- A letter from the Interim Superintendent was given to all middle school principals on September 18, via the middle school Network Executive Officers, regarding implementation of violence prevention curriculum.

Oct –Nov 2008

- Two additional coaches will be hired;
- New Second Step curriculum will be purchased;
- Violence Prevention curriculum staff/teacher training will be underway at all middle schools.

Dec 08 – June 09

On-going coaching and monitoring of violence prevention curriculum classes being taught across 20 OUSD middle schools, in conjunction with Conflict Mediation program.

EVALUATION OF PAST PERFORMANCE

OUSD exceeded 2007-08 middle school deliverables by 162%:

- 6,084 students in 18 middle schools received violence prevention curriculum training this year
- Translates to 81% of students enrolled in 18 middle schools participating in lessons on alternatives to violence
- Coaches trained over 100 teachers, with very favorable evaluation feedback
- Curriculum materials were purchased and distributed, including student workbooks

The City's external evaluators concluded that Measure Y dollars are getting their best results per capita from the OUSD prevention programs.

On June 20, 2008, Principal Ivory Brooks made 5 points during an interview about the Too Good for Violence violence prevention curriculum at Cole Middle School, which he termed "a wonderful resource for our students:"

1. The Measure Y funding provides training and coaching support, which is what got the school started with implementation.
2. Students are exposed to violence in the media and in their personal lives in this community. They need strategies for understanding and coping with violence, and to learn alternatives to violence, including:
 - a. How to calm themselves down and problem solve in conflict situations

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- b. De-escalating situations before they become violent
 - c. Learning to think critically about things they are exposed to in the media and in the community
3. In Restorative Justice, students sit in a circle. An important piece of circle is that they need to be able to communicate their point of view and be able to hear other points of view about a particular situation. Too Good for Violence gives students the skill-set they need for RJ circle participation - to be able to communicate, to be able to give feedback and accept feedback, but most importantly to be able to communicate clearly and openly with each other. The two programs really mesh very well together.
 4. Through the structure of the curriculum, teachers are able to listen to students, understand what they are going through, and help them listen to each other.
 5. Using real life situations in the structured role-play practice allowed students to come up with their own solutions to a lot of the issues they face. So it was a great way to get students to be solution-minded to things they face every day or that they hear about.

SUSTAINABLE OPPORTUNITIES

Economic: Providing youth with violence prevention programs will further the City's violence prevention efforts and assist young people in becoming law-abiding, responsible and stable contributing tax paying residents of the City of Oakland. These programs also reduce the costs (including police and court costs as well as direct damage costs) of crimes prevented.

Environmental: No environmental opportunities have been identified.

Social Equity: By working with youth to prevent violence, Measure Y programs help youth complete school and avoid arrest and incarceration.

DISABILITY AND SENIOR CITIZEN ACCESS

All activities provided by this program will be fully accessible to disabled youth.

RECOMMENDATION(S) AND RATIONALE

Staff has prepared a resolution authorizing the City Administrator to execute an amendment for an additional \$44,016 in funds for Fiscal Year 2008-2009, for a total not to exceed \$277,348, in order to fully implement violence prevention curricula (Second Step and Too Good for Violence) in middle schools.

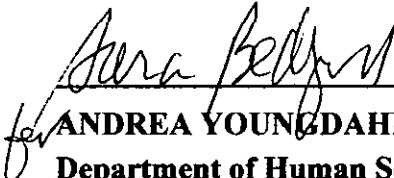
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Approval of this amendment would authorize the allocation of 2007-2008 OUSD carryforward funds, Measure Y reserve funds, and pay-go funds from Councilmembers Kernighan for 2008-2009 implementation of violence prevention curricula in middle schools.

ACTION REQUESTED OF THE CITY COUNCIL

Approve a resolution authorizing the City Administrator to amend the Measure Y Grant Agreement with Oakland Unified School District for an additional \$44,016 for Fiscal Year 2008-09, resulting in a total contract amount of \$277,348, to provide violence prevention curricula (Second Step and Too Good for Violence) to middle schools.

Respectfully submitted,


for **ANDREA YOUNG DAHL, Director**
Department of Human Services

Reviewed by:
 Sara Bedford, Manager
Policy & Planning

Prepared by:
Priya Jagannathan, Planner
Measure Y

APPROVED AND FORWARDED TO THE
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE:


Office of the City Administrator

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FILED
OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
OAKLAND

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Approved as to Form and Legality


City Attorney

OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION No. _____ C.M.S.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR TO AMEND THE MEASURE Y GRANT AGREEMENT WITH OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT (OUSD) FOR AN ADDITIONAL \$44,016 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2008-09, RESULTING IN A TOTAL CONTRACT AMOUNT OF \$277,348, TO PROVIDE VIOLENCE PREVENTION CURRICULA (SECOND STEP AND TOO GOOD FOR VIOLENCE) TO MIDDLE SCHOOLS

WHEREAS, City of Oakland voters passed Measure Y, the Violence Prevention and Public Safety Act of 2004, in November 2004, approving a series of taxes to support violence prevention objectives; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has approved Measure Y funding for the implementation of violence prevention curricula (Second Step and similar curricula) at all pre-school, elementary, and middle schools in OUSD since Fiscal Year 2005-2006; and

WHEREAS, for Fiscal Year 2008-2009, City Council redirected \$50,000 in funding previously allocated to OUSD's middle school violence prevention curricula funding, leaving a gap in the OUSD violence prevention curricula funding; and

WHEREAS, City Council approved the amount of \$233,332 for OUSD's 2008-2009 violence prevention curricula for Fiscal Year 2008-2009; and

WHEREAS, in order to fully implement the violence prevention program across 20 middle schools throughout the 08-09 school year, an additional \$44,016 is required; and

WHEREAS, \$28,059 in carry forward funds from OUSD's 2007-2008 Measure Y grant agreement is available, and

WHEREAS, \$7,978.50 is available in Measure Y Reserve Funds, and

WHEREAS, Councilmember Kernighan wishes to grant a portion of her PayGo funds in the amount of \$7,978.50 to OUSD's violence prevention curricula, now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That the City Administrator is hereby authorized to amend the Measure Y grant agreement between the City of Oakland and OUSD in an additional amount of \$44,016 for the period of July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009, for a total amount not to exceed \$277,348; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That \$28,059 of these funds will be allocated from Measure Y Fund (2251), DHS Administration Organization (78111) and 2007-2008 Measure Y Second Step Project (G310360) and 2007-2008 Peer Conflict Resolution Project (G310358); and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That \$7,978.50 of these funds will be allocated from Measure Y Fund (2251), DHS Administration Organization (78111) and Reserve Fund (G261273); and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That \$7,978.50 of these funds will be allocated from District 2 paygo funds (General Purpose Fund 1010) for the purchase of books and materials for Second Step; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That said agreements shall be approved as to form and legality by the Office of the City Attorney and placed on file in the Office of the City Clerk.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, _____, 20_____

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES - BROOKS, BRUNNER, CHANG, KERNIGHAN, NADEL, QUAN, REID, and PRESIDENT DE LA FUENTE

NOES -

ABSENT -

ABSTENTION -

ATTEST: _____
LaTonda Simmons
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council
of the City of Oakland, California