

Board of Education Report

File #: Rep-092-22/23, **Version:** 1

**Define and Approve Six Sustainable Environment Enhancement Developments for Schools (SEEDS) Projects and Amend the Facilities Services Division Strategic Execution Plan to Incorporate Therein
December 13, 2022
Facilities Services Division**

Action Proposed:

Define and approve six Sustainable Environment Enhancement Developments for Schools (SEEDS) projects at Dayton Heights Elementary School, Atwater Avenue Elementary School, Victoria Avenue Elementary School, Clinton Middle School, Gage Middle School, and Hesby Oaks Leadership Charter, as described on Attachment A. The total combined budget for the six projects is \$600,000.

Background:

The SEEDS Program supports the development of projects that will enhance school sites by creating outdoor learning spaces in collaboration with school-based and community-led efforts (Program). There are two components to the Program:

1. Development of the outdoor learning space constructed by Los Angeles Unified which includes capital investments, such as asphalt removal, installation of irrigation and utilities, and any associated testing and inspection.
2. Collaboration with a school site and/or partner organization that will outfit the outdoor learning space with the plant materials and landscaping features that align with the school's instructional vision and program. This component is essential to the success of each project.

Potential projects are identified through proposals submitted by schools, and or partners. A school site by itself, or in cooperation with a partner organization, may submit a SEEDS application to receive up to \$100,000 to create or improve an outdoor learning space. An additional \$50,000 ("SEEDS+" funding) is now available to schools ranked in the top 150 on the Los Angeles Unified Greening Index of schools in need of green space (Greening Index).

The Greening Index ranks the six schools by the following, Dayton Heights Elementary School (191), Atwater Avenue Elementary School (600), Victoria Avenue Elementary School (214), Clinton Middle School (578), Gage Middle School (284), and Hesby Oaks Leadership Charter (599), and therefore the project proposals contained in this Board Report do not include SEEDS+ funding.

District staff evaluates the proposals based on the specific criteria and requirements outlined in the SEEDS Program Guide to ensure each proposal meets the eligibility requirements. Proposals must include a written project narrative describing the project scope, an explanation of how the project will be integrated into the school's curriculum, and confirmation of the availability of resources to outfit and maintain the outdoor learning space. The recommended projects included in this Board Report have been reviewed and have been found to comply with the program requirements, including feasibility and equitable distribution throughout the

District.

Expected Outcomes:

Approval of this proposed action will enable staff to proceed with the design and construction of these six projects. Approval of these greening projects will improve the learning environment for students, teachers, and staff, increase sustainability, and enhance the outdoor school environment.

Board Options and Consequences:

Approval of this proposed action will authorize staff to proceed with the expenditure of Bond Program funds to execute these projects that support educational programs related to nutrition, health, literacy, math, and science. If these projects are not approved, the school sites will not benefit from the creation of these outdoor learning spaces.

Policy Implications:

The proposed action is consistent with the District's long-term goal to address unmet school facilities needs and provide students with safe and healthy learning environments. The action is also aligned with Board Resolutions that reiterate Los Angeles Unified's commitment to creating green learning spaces (Expand Sustainable Schoolyards and Environmental Initiatives and Curriculum Board Resolution adopted on April 16, 2013, Creating New School Gardens and Campus and Community-Shared Green Spaces to Provide Outdoor Learning Opportunities and Create Sustainable and Healthy Environments adopted on February 9, 2021, and Green Schools for All: Equitable Funding and Expansion of Green Spaces across District Campuses adopted on September 27, 2022).

Budget Impact:

The combined project budget for the six proposed projects is \$600,000. The projects will be funded with Bond Program funds earmarked specifically for school upgrades and reconfigurations to support wellness, health, athletics, learning, and efficiency.

Student Impact:

The proposed SEEDS projects at Dayton Heights Elementary School, Atwater Avenue Elementary School, Victoria Avenue Elementary School, Clinton Middle School, Gage Middle School, and Hesby Oaks Leadership Charter will provide outdoor learning spaces that create environments for student-centered, experiential, and engaged learning. These SEEDS learning gardens will facilitate educational programs related to nutrition, health, literacy, math and science and may also be used during recess and lunch-time by the students. These projects also encourage and support community, student, and parent engagement through the creation of partnerships that help establish and maintain the newly developed garden spaces.

Equity Impact:

Potential projects are identified through proposals submitted by schools and/or partners. A school by itself or in cooperation with a partner organization may submit an application for a SEEDS project for up to \$100,000. Schools ranked in the top 150 on the Greening Index will receive an additional \$50,000 for their SEEDS project. The projects included in this Board Report do not qualify for this additional funding.

Issues and Analysis:

In order to ensure the long-term permanence of each SEEDS project, the school site and/or its partner organization must enter into a Maintenance Agreement that provides for the on-going maintenance of the proposed outdoor learning space.

Bond Oversight Committee Recommendations:

This item was considered by the School Construction Bond Citizens' Oversight Committee (BOC) at its meeting on November 3, 2022. Staff has concluded that this proposed Facilities SEP amendment is in alignment with BOC recommendations and will facilitate Los Angeles Unified's ability to successfully implement the Facilities SEP.

Attachments:

Attachment A - Six SEEDS Projects

Attachment B - BOC Resolution

Informatives:

None

Submitted:

10/27/22

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,



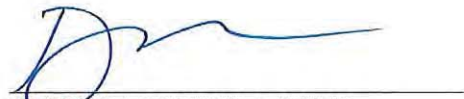
ALBERTO M. CARVALHO
Superintendent

APPROVED BY:



PEDRO SALCIDO
Deputy Superintendent,
Business Services & Operations

REVIEWED BY:



DEVORA NAVERA REED
General Counsel



Approved as to form.

APPROVED BY:



MARK HOVATTER
Chief Facilities Executive
Facilities Services Division

REVIEWED BY:

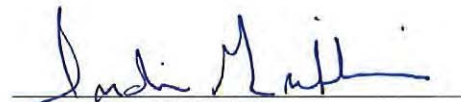


TONY ATIENZA
Director, Budget Services and Financial Planning



Approved as to budget impact statement.

PRESENTED BY:



INDIA R. GRIFFIN
Director of Maintenance and Operations
Facilities Services Division

Board of Education Report

ATTACHMENT A

Sustainable Environment Enhancement Developments for Schools (SEEDS)

Local District	BD	School Name	Partner Organization	Project Description	Project Budget*	Est. Schedule	
						Start	Finish
Central	2	Dayton Heights Elementary School	National Wildlife Refuge Association	Construct an outdoor learning and native habitat space of approximately 2,500 square feet. The project includes the excavation of existing asphalt, new decomposed granite and mulch, new irrigation connection and bubblers, log benches and stools, a tool shed, new trees, and drought tolerant planting areas. The school will install drip irrigation and provide tables, plants, and shrubs.	\$100,000	Q2 2023	Q4 2023
Central	5	Atwater Avenue Elementary School	Friends of Atwater Elementary	Construct an outdoor learning and native habitat space of approximately 1,800 square feet. The project includes the excavation of existing asphalt and a small grass area, new irrigation, a colored concrete seating area and walkway, a grass berm on the adjacent grass field, a dry creek bed, log benches and stools, and drought tolerant planting areas. The school will provide grass for the berm and plants for the native habitat.	\$100,000	Q2 2023	Q4 2023
East	5	Victoria Avenue Elementary School	Big Green and Padres Unidos	Construct an outdoor learning and edible garden space of approximately 3,287 square feet. The project includes the excavation of existing asphalt, new decomposed granite and mulch, new irrigation connection and bubblers, log benches and stools, in-ground garden beds, new trees, and drought tolerant planting areas. The school will provide tables, a greenhouse, fruit trees, tool shed, plants, and shrubs.	\$100,000	Q2 2023	Q4 2023
SUB-TOTAL					\$300,000		

*Project budget reflects the design services and improvements undertaken by the District. The outfitting and maintenance of the outdoor learning space will be provided by the school site community and/or partner organization.

Greening Index:

Dayton Heights ES Index Rank No. 191

Atwater Ave ES Index Rank No. 600

Victoria Ave ES Index Rank No. 214

Board of Education Report

ATTACHMENT A

Sustainable Environment Enhancement Developments for Schools (SEEDS)

Local District	BD	School Name	Partner Organization	Project Description	Project Budget*	Est. Schedule	
						Start	Finish
Central	5	Clinton Middle School	School	Construct an outdoor learning and native habitat space of approximately 4,808 square feet. The project includes removing existing grass, installing a colored concrete outdoor learning environment, mulch and native planting area, new irrigation connection and bubblers, log benches and stools, a tool shed, raised garden beds, and a dry creek bed. The school will install drip irrigation and provide plants.	\$100,000	Q2 2023	Q4 2023
East	5	Gage Middle School	School	Construct an outdoor learning environment with a forested walkway and seating areas of approximately 4,500 square feet. The project includes removing existing asphalt, installing a colored concrete seating area and walkway, mulch and native planting area, new irrigation connection and bubblers, shade trees, log benches and stools. The school will provide the drought tolerant plants.	\$100,000	Q2 2023	Q4 2023
North-west	4	Hesby Oaks Leadership Charter+	School	Construct an outdoor learning and native habitat space of approximately 2,030 square feet. The project includes removing existing grass, installing a colored concrete seating area and walkway, mulch and native planting area, new irrigation connection, proper drainage, and outdoor furniture for small groups. The school will provide plants.	\$100,000	Q2 2023	Q4 2023
TOTAL					\$600,000		

*Project budget reflects the design services and improvements undertaken by the District. The outfitting and maintenance of the outdoor learning space will be provided by the school site community and/or partner organization.

+LAUSD Affiliated Charter School

Greening Index:

Clinton MS Index Rank No. 578

Gage MS Index Rank No. 284

Hesby Oaks LC Index Rank No. 599

LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION BOND CITIZENS' OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

Margaret Fuentes, Chair

LAUSD Student Parent

D. Michael Hamner, Vice-Chair

American Institute of Architects

Jennifer McDowell, Secretary

L.A. City Mayor's Office

Susan Linschoten, Executive Committee

L.A. Co. Auditor-Controller's Office

Scott Pansky, Executive Committee

L.A. Area Chamber of Commerce

Neelura Bell

CA Charter School Association

Jeffrey Fischbach

CA Tax Reform Assn.

Chris Hannan

L.A. Co. Federation of Labor AFL-CIO

Hyepin Im

L.A. City Controller's Office

Brian Mello

Assoc. General Contractors of CA

Dr. Clarence Montecarlo

Tenth District PTSA

William O. Ross, IV31st District PTSA**Samantha Rowles**

LAUSD Student Parent

Araceli Sandoval-Gonzalez

Early Education Coalition

Dolores Sobalvarro

AARP

Celia Ayala (Alternate)

Early Education Coalition

Chad Boggio (Alternate)

L.A. Co. Federation of Labor AFL-CIO

Peggy Robertson (Alternate)

Assoc. General Contractors of CA

Connie Yee (Alternate)

L.A. Co. Auditor-Controller's Office

Joseph P. Buchman – Legal Counsel

Burke, Williams & Sorensen, LLP

Lori Raineri and Keith Weaver – Oversight Consultants

Government Financial Strategies

Timothy Popejoy

Bond Oversight Administrator

Perla Zitle

Bond Oversight Coordinator

RESOLUTION 2022-46

BOARD REPORT NO. 092-22/23

**RECOMMENDING BOARD APPROVAL TO DEFINE AND APPROVE SIX SUSTAINABLE
ENVIRONMENT ENHANCEMENT DEVELOPMENTS FOR SCHOOLS (SEEDS)
PROJECTS AND AMEND THE FACILITIES SERVICES DIVISION STRATEGIC
EXECUTION PLAN TO INCORPORATE THEREIN**

WHEREAS, District Staff proposes the Board of Education define and approve six Sustainable Environment Enhancement Developments for Schools (SEEDS) projects at Dayton Heights Elementary School, Atwater Avenue Elementary School, Victoria Avenue Elementary School, Clinton Middle School, Gage Middle School, and Hesby Oaks Leadership Charter, which have a total combined budget of \$600,000, and amend the Facilities Services Division (Facilities) Strategic Execution Plan (SEP) to incorporate therein, as defined in Board Report No. 092-22/23, a copy of which is attached hereto in the form it was presented to the BOC and is incorporated herein by reference; and

WHEREAS, The SEEDS Program was established to support the development of projects that will enhance school sites by creating outdoor learning spaces in collaboration with school-based and community-led efforts; and

WHEREAS, Potential projects are identified through proposals submitted by schools, and or partners. A school site by itself, or in cooperation with a partner organization, may submit a SEEDS application to receive up to \$100,000 to create or improve an outdoor learning space. An additional \$50,000 ("SEEDS+" funding) is now available to schools ranked in the top 150 on the Los Angeles Unified Greening Index of schools in need of green space; and

RESOLUTION 2022-46**RECOMMENDING BOARD APPROVAL TO DEFINE AND APPROVE SIX SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT ENHANCEMENT DEVELOPMENTS FOR SCHOOLS (SEEDS) PROJECTS AND AMEND THE FACILITIES SERVICES DIVISION STRATEGIC EXECUTION PLAN TO INCORPORATE THEREIN**

WHEREAS, District Staff evaluated proposals based on the specific criteria and requirements outlined in the SEEDS program guide to ensure each proposal meets the eligibility requirements and includes a written project narrative describing the project scope, an explanation of how the project will be integrated into the school's curriculum, and confirmation of the availability of resources to outfit and maintain the outdoor learning space, and the projects being recommended were reviewed and are found to be in compliance with the program requirements; and

WHEREAS, the Los Angeles Unified Greening Index ranks Dayton Heights Elementary School (191), Atwater Avenue Elementary School (600), Victoria Avenue Elementary (214), Clinton Middle School (578), Gage Middle School (284), and Hesby Oaks Leadership Charter (599); and

WHEREAS, Dayton Heights Elementary School, Atwater Avenue Elementary School, Victoria Avenue Elementary School, Clinton Middle School, Gage Middle School, and Hesby Oaks Leadership Charter will receive \$100,000 for their SEEDS projects. The projects will be funded with Bond Program funds earmarked specifically for school upgrades and reconfigurations to support wellness, health, athletics, learning, and efficiency; and

WHEREAS, in order to ensure the long-term permanence of each SEEDS project, the school site and/or its partner organization must enter into a Maintenance Agreement that provides for the on-going maintenance of the proposed outdoor learning space; and

WHEREAS, District Staff has concluded that this proposed Facilities SEP amendment will facilitate Los Angeles Unified's ability to successfully complete the Facilities SEP.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The School Construction Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee recommends the Board of Education define and approve six SEEDS projects at Dayton Heights Elementary School, Atwater Avenue Elementary School, Victoria Avenue Elementary School, Clinton Middle School, Gage Middle School, and Hesby Oaks Leadership Charter, with a total combined budget of \$600,000, and amend the Facilities SEP to incorporate therein, as defined in Board Report 092-22/23, a copy of which is attached hereto in the form it was presented to the BOC and is incorporated herein by reference.
2. This resolution shall be transmitted to the Los Angeles Unified School District Board of Education and posted on the Oversight Committee's website.
3. The District is directed to track the above recommendation and to report on the adoption, rejection, or pending status of the recommendations as provided in section 6.2 of the Charter and Memorandum of Understanding between the Oversight Committee and the District.

RESOLUTION 2022-46

RECOMMENDING BOARD APPROVAL TO DEFINE AND APPROVE SIX SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT ENHANCEMENT DEVELOPMENTS FOR SCHOOLS (SEEDS) PROJECTS AND AMEND THE FACILITIES SERVICES DIVISION STRATEGIC EXECUTION PLAN TO INCORPORATE THEREIN

ADOPTED on November 3, 2022, by the following vote:

AYES: 10

ABSTENTIONS: 0

NAYS: 0

ABSENCES: 5

/Margaret Fuentes/

Margaret Fuentes
Chair

/Michael Hamner/

D. Michael Hamner
Vice-Chair