

LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION BOND CITIZENS' OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

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Burke, Williams & Sorensen, LLP

**Thomas A. Rubin, CPA**

Oversight Committee Consultant

**Timothy Popejoy**

Bond Oversight Administrator

**(Vacant)**

Asst. Administrative Analyst

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RESOLUTION 2016-48

BOARD REPORT NO. 256-16/17

**AMENDMENT TO THE FACILITIES SERVICES DIVISION STRATEGIC  
EXECUTION PLAN TO DEFINE AND APPROVE FOUR SUSTAINABLE  
ENVIRONMENT ENHANCEMENT DEVELOPMENTS FOR SCHOOLS (SEEDS)  
PROJECTS**

WHEREAS, District Staff proposes that the Board of Education adopt an amendment to the Facilities Services Division (FSD) Strategic Execution Plan (SEP) to define and approve four Sustainable Environment Enhancement Developments for Schools (SEEDS) projects (the "Projects") as listed in Attachment A to Board Report 256-16/17, a copy of which is attached hereto in the form it was presented to the BOC and is incorporated herein by reference, which have a total combined budget of \$305,000; and

WHEREAS, On June 18, 2013, the Board of Education amended the FSD SEP to establish the SEEDS program and allocate \$5,000,000 for the development of future projects that will enhance school sites by creating outdoor learning spaces in collaboration with school and community led efforts; and

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 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 and the projects being recommended have all been reviewed and are found to be in compliance with the program requirements; and

WHEREAS, District Staff represents that the proposed projects will be funded by Bond Program funds associated with the School Upgrade Program, earmarked specifically to "Leverage Partnerships to Provide After School Activities and Programming and Community Use of Facilities;" and

**Resolution 2016-48**

**AMENDMENT TO THE FACILITIES SERVICES DIVISION STRATEGIC  
EXECUTION PLAN TO DEFINE AND APPROVE FOUR SUSTAINABLE  
ENVIRONMENT ENHANCEMENT DEVELOPMENTS FOR SCHOOLS (SEEDS)  
PROJECTS**

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WHEREAS, in order to ensure the long-term permanence of each SEEDS project, the school site and/or their 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 the proposed SEP amendment will facilitate implementation of the FSD SEP, and therefore, it will not adversely affect the District's ability to successfully complete the FSD SEP.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The School Construction Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee recommends that the Board of Education adopt an amendment to the Facilities Services Division (FSD) Strategic Execution Plan to define and approve four Sustainable Environment Enhancement Developments for Schools (SEEDS) projects as listed in Attachment A, to Board Report 256-16/17, 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.

ADOPTED on December 1, 2016, by the following vote:

AYES: 12

ABSTENTIONS: 0

NAYS: 0

ABSENCES: 1

*Pamela Schmidt*

Pamela Schmidt  
Chair

*Quynh Nguyen*

Quynh Nguyen  
Vice Chair



## Board of Education Report

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**File #:** Rep-256-16/17, **Version:** 1

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**Amendment to the Facilities Services Division Strategic Execution Plan to Define and Approve Four Sustainable Environment Enhancement Developments for Schools (SEEDS) Projects**  
**December 13, 2016**  
**Facilities Services Division**

**Action Proposed:**

Staff proposes that the Board of Education amend the Facilities Services Division (FSD) Strategic Execution Plan (SEP) to define and approve four Sustainable Environment Enhancement Developments for Schools (SEEDS) projects as listed in Attachment A. The total combined budget for these projects is \$305,000.

**Background:**

On June 18, 2013, the Board of Education amended the FSD SEP to establish the SEEDS program and allocate \$5,000,000 for the development of future projects that will enhance school sites by creating outdoor learning spaces in collaboration with school and community led efforts. There are two components to the SEEDS program. The first component is development of the outdoor learning space, constructed by the District and includes capital investments, such as asphalt removal, installation of irrigation and utilities, and any associated testing and inspection. The second component, which is essential to the success of each project, is the 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.

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. 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. 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 have been reviewed and have been found to comply with the program requirements.

**Expected Outcomes:**

Approval of this proposed action will enable staff to proceed with the design and construction of these four 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. It is also aligned with the goals and principles of the School Upgrade Program, which was approved by the Board of Education on January 14, 2014.

Furthermore, it supports the *Expand Sustainable Schoolyards and Environmental Initiatives and Curriculum* Board Resolution adopted on April 16, 2013.

**Budget Impact:**

The combined project budget for the four proposed projects is \$305,000. The proposed projects will be funded by Bond Program funds associated with the School Upgrade Program, earmarked specifically to "Leverage Partnerships to Provide After School Activities and Programming and Community Use of Facilities."

**Issues and Analysis:**

In order to ensure the long-term permanence of each SEEDS project, the school site and/or their 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 December 1, 2016. Staff has concluded that this proposed FSD-SEP amendment will help facilitate implementation of the FSD-SEP, and therefore, it will not adversely affect the District's ability to successfully complete the FSD-SEP.

**Attachments:**

Attachment A

**Informatives:**

November 21, 2016 Update to SEEDS Program Guidelines Informative

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,**

**APPROVED BY:**

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MICHELLE KING  
Superintendent

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MARK HOVATTER  
Chief Facilities Executive  
Facilities Services Division

**REVIEWED BY:**

**PRESENTED BY:**

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DAVID HOLMQUIST  
General Counsel

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ROGER FINSTAD  
Director of Maintenance of Operations  
Facilities Services Division

\_\_\_ Approved as to form.

**REVIEWED BY:**

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CHERYL SIMPSON  
Director, Budget Services and Financial Planning

\_\_\_ Approved as to budget impact statement.



**LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**Board of Education Report**

**Attachment A**

*Define and Approve Four Sustainable Environment Enhancement Developments for Schools (SEEDS) Projects*

Local District	BD	School Name	Partner Organization(s)	Project Description	Project Budget*	Est. Schedule	
						Start	Finish
South	7	Bandini Street Elementary	The Kitchen Community	Design and construct an outdoor learning space of approximately 1,500 square feet consisting of the installation of pavers, concrete headers, two tree wells, a hose bib, irrigation system, seating boulders, planter boxes, art poles and soil. It will be outfitted by the school site and the partner organization (The Kitchen Community) with planting materials and trees.	\$70,000	Q2 2017	Q3 2017
West	4	Cowan Avenue Elementary	The Kitchen Community	Design and construct an outdoor learning space of approximately 1,500 square feet consisting of the installation of a hose bib, irrigation system, seating boulders, planter boxes, art poles, a storage unit and soil. It will be outfitted by the school site and the partner organization (The Kitchen Community) with planting materials.	\$55,000	Q1 2017	Q2 2017
Northeast	3	Sherman Oaks Elementary	SOPA/EnrichLA	Design and construct an outdoor learning space of approximately 6,500 square feet consisting of the installation of concrete, decomposed granite, irrigation system, bioswale and boulders. It will be outfitted by the school site and the partner organizations (Sherman Oaks/EnrichLA) with raised beds, drip irrigation and planting materials.	\$100,000	Q1 2017	Q2 2017
West	1	Western Avenue Elementary	The Kitchen Community	Design and construct an outdoor learning space of approximately 1,700 square feet consisting of the removal of asphalt, installation of decomposed granite, stamped concrete, a hose bib, irrigation system, seating boulders, planter boxes, art poles and soil. It will be outfitted by the school site and the partner organization (The Kitchen Community) with planting materials.	\$80,000	Q1 2017	Q2 2017
<b>TOTAL</b>					<b>\$305,000</b>		

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

**INTEROFFICE CORRESPONDENCE**  
**Los Angeles Unified School District**  
**Facilities Services Division**

**INFORMATIVE**

**TO:** Members, Board of Education  
Michelle King, Superintendent

**DATE:** November 21, 2016

**FROM:** Mark Hovatter, Chief Facilities Executive



**SUBJECT: UPDATE TO SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT ENHANCEMENT  
DEVELOPMENTS FOR SCHOOLS (SEEDS) PROGRAM GUIDELINES**

The Sustainable Environment Enhancement Developments for Schools (SEEDS) program was created to support the development of projects that enhance school sites by creating outdoor learning spaces in collaboration with school and community led efforts. As described in the SEEDS program guidelines, there are two primary components of the program. The first is the development of the outdoor learning space, constructed by the District, which includes capital investments for things such as the removal of asphalt and the installation of irrigation and utilities. The second component is the installation of plant materials and/or landscaping features, typically done by a school site and/or partner organization. The SEEDS program began in May 2014 provided for up to \$25,000 of bond funds to augment the proposed project costs. To date, 42 SEEDS projects have been Board approved and completed (\$1.2 million).

In June 2015, staff recommend to increase the funding cap per SEEDS project from \$25,000 to \$35,000. The justification was to provide more design flexibility, ensure projects met Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessibility requirements for compliant paths and gates, and to provide a project reserve. With the program now entering its third year, staff is recommending to increase the funds available per SEEDS project from \$35,000 to up to \$100,000. As the program has grown over the past years, so has the enthusiasm for the ability to create meaningful and robust outdoor learning environments. Consequently, staff is receiving project submittals whose implementation will require more extensive capital improvements. Schools are requesting to convert larger areas of asphalt into green or permeable space as well as more in-ground planting areas, which require more funds to pay for the removal of asphalt and base materials, soil export and import and the installation of decomposed granite or pavers. More projects are proposed to include irrigation systems for in-ground planting areas or raised bed gardens, which help ensure the longevity of new gardens, but also oftentimes require additional costs for drainage systems or permeability assessments. Additionally, many schools desire projects that include classroom gathering spaces that are conducive to cross-disciplinary learning. These more complex designs require the allocation of funds for landscape architectural services to ensure projects are designed to meet District design standards, as well as ADA requirements. An increase in available funding does not mean that all projects will now require this level of investment. The increase will simply provide schools with more opportunity and flexibility to design and implement green, sustainable, educationally rich environments, and support the ongoing success of the SEEDS program.

To ensure that all interested parties are aware of this update to the program, the SEEDS website and all applicable materials will be updated and a notice will be sent to all school sites, stakeholders and community partners describing the change. Additionally, school sites that received SEEDS funds limited by the previous funding caps will have the opportunity to reapply for additional funds, up to the new

Members, Board of Education  
Michelle King, Superintendent  
November 21, 2016  
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maximum, for SEEDS eligible infrastructure work on their existing projects. While the program has solicited significant interest thus far, we are hopeful this change will encourage more school sites and partners to apply for the program.

If you have any questions or would like additional information, please contact me at 213.241.4811.

c: Alma Peña-Sanchez  
Thelma Meléndez de Santa Ana  
David Holmquist  
Nicole Elam-Ellis  
Kenneth Bramlett  
Jefferson Crain  
Facilities Leadership  
Local District Superintendents  
Members, Bond Citizens' Oversight Committee