



Board of Education Report

File #: Rep-123-21/22, **Version:** 1

**Define and Approve Two Sustainable Environment Enhancement Developments for Schools (SEEDS) Projects and Amend the Facilities Services Division Strategic Execution Plan to Incorporate Therein
December 7, 2021
Facilities Services Division**

Action Proposed:

Define and approve two Sustainable Environment Enhancement Developments for Schools (SEEDS) projects at Lankershim Elementary School and 20th Street Elementary School, as described on Attachment A, and amend the Facilities Services Division (Facilities) Strategic Execution Plan (SEP) to incorporate therein. The total combined budget for the two projects is \$200,000.

Background:

The SEEDS Program, established in 2013, supports the development of projects that will enhance school sites by creating outdoor learning spaces in collaboration with school-based and community-led efforts. 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. 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 two 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 and 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).

Budget Impact:

The combined project budget for the two proposed projects is \$200,000. The proposed projects will be funded by Bond Program funds associated with the School Upgrade Program, earmarked specifically for "School Upgrades and Reconfigurations to Support Wellness, Health, Athletics, Learning and Efficiency."

Student Impact:

The proposed SEEDS projects at Lankershim Elementary School and 20th Street Elementary School 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:

The SEEDS program was established as part of a continuing commitment to support and expand the number of greening projects at Los Angeles Unified School District schools. The SEEDS program provides funding to enhance and/or create outdoor healthy and sustainable learning environments that support Los Angeles Unified's curriculum. Potential projects are identified through proposals submitted by schools. A school by itself or in cooperation with a partner organization may submit an application for a SEEDS project. One of the key considerations is to distribute SEEDS projects in each Local District.

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 Citizen's Oversight Committee (BOC) at its meeting on December 2, 2021. 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.

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Attachments:

Attachment A: Two SEEDS Projects

Attachment B: BOC Resolution

Informatives:

Not Applicable.

Submitted:

11/12/21

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,



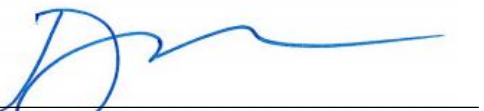
MEGAN K. REILLY
Interim Superintendent

APPROVED BY:



PEDRO SALCIDO
Interim Deputy Superintendent

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:



ROBERT LAUGHTON
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
Northeast	3	Lankershim ES	School	Construct an outdoor learning and gathering space of approximately 2,100 square feet. Includes the installation of decomposed granite, redwood headers to create in-ground planting areas, new tress, mulch, a new irrigation system, log benches and stools to create an outdoor learning environment, and picnic tables to create an outdoor dining garden. The project will be outfitted by the school with drought-tolerant shrubs.	\$100,000	Q2 2022	Q4 2022
Central	2	20 th Street ES	EnrichLA	Construct an outdoor learning and gathering space of approximately 1,900 square feet. Includes the installation of decomposed granite and cement brush off areas, concrete headers to create in-ground planting areas, new trees, mulch, a new irrigation system, log benches and stools to create an outdoor learning environment. The project will be outfitted by the school site with drought-tolerant plants.	\$100,000	Q1 2022	Q3 2022
TOTAL					\$200,000		

*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.

LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION BOND CITIZENS' OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE****Rachel Greene, Chair**

Tenth District PTSA

Chris Hannan, Vice-Chair

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

Margaret Fuentes, Secretary

LAUSD Student Parent

Araceli Sandoval-Gonzalez, Executive Committee

Early Education Coalition

Alvin Trotter, Jr., Executive Committee

L.A. Area Chamber of Commerce

Tracy Bartley31st District PTSA**Laura Baz**

LAUSD Student Parent

Neelura Bell

CA Charter School Association

Jeffrey Fischbach

CA Tax Reform Assn.

Greg Good

L.A. City Mayor's Office

D. Michael Hamner

American Institute of Architects

Hyepin Im

L.A. City Controller's Office

Susan Linschoten

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

Dolores Sobalvarro

AARP

Roger Uy

Assoc. General Contractors of CA

Celia Ayala (Alternate)

Early Education Coalition

Dr. Clarence Monteclaro (Alternate)

Tenth District PTSA

Samantha Rowles (Alternate)

LAUSD Student Parent

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 2021-41**BOARD REPORT NO. 123-21/22****RECOMMENDING BOARD APPROVAL TO DEFINE AND APPROVE TWO SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT ENHANCEMENT DEVELOPMENTS FOR SCHOOLS (SEEDS) PROJECTS AND AMEND THE FACILITIES SERVICES DIVISION STRATEGIC EXECUTION PLAN TO INCORPORATE THEREIN**

WHEREAS, District Staff propose the Board of Education define and approve two Sustainable Environment Enhancement Developments for Schools (SEEDS) projects at Lankershim Elementary School and 20th Street Elementary School, and amend the Facilities Services Division (Facilities) Strategic Execution Plan (SEP) to incorporate therein, as defined in Board Report 123-21/22, a copy of which is attached hereto in the form it was presented to the BOC and is incorporated herein by reference, which has a total budget of \$200,000; and

WHEREAS, The SEEDS Program was established in 2013 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, 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

**RESOLUTION 2021-41
RECOMMENDING BOARD APPROVAL TO DEFINE AND APPROVE TWO SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT ENHANCEMENT DEVELOPMENTS FOR SCHOOLS (SEEDS) PROJECTS AND AMEND THE FACILITIES SERVICES DIVISION STRATEGIC EXECUTION PLAN TO INCORPORATE THEREIN**

WHEREAS, District Staff represents that the proposed projects will be funded by Bond Program funds associated with the School Upgrade Program, 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 two SEEDS projects at Lankershim Elementary School and 20th Street Elementary School, with a total combined budget of \$200,000, and amend the Facilities SEP to incorporate therein, as defined in Board Report 123-21/22, 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 2, 2021, by the following vote:

AYES: 11

ABSTENTIONS: 0

NAYS: 0

ABSENCES: 4

/Chris Hannan/

Chris Hannan
Vice-Chair

/Margaret Fuentes/

Margaret Fuentes
Secretary