



## Board of Education Report

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**File #:** Rep-037-21/22, **Version:** 1

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### **Amendment to the Facilities Services Division Strategic Execution Plan to Define and Approve Three Sustainable Environment Enhancement Developments for Schools (SEEDS) Projects**

**September 14, 2021**

#### **Facilities Services Division**

#### **Action Proposed:**

Approve an amendment to the Facilities Services Division (Facilities) Strategic Execution Plan (SEP) to define and approve three Sustainable Environment Enhancement Developments for Schools (SEEDS) projects at Marianna Elementary School, Murchison Elementary School and 75th Street Elementary School, as described on Attachment A. The total combined budget for the three projects is \$300,000.

#### **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 three 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 three proposed projects is \$300,000. 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 Marianna Elementary School, Murchison Elementary School and 75th 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.

**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 September 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.

**Attachments:**

Attachment A - Three SEEDS Projects  
Attachment B - BOC Resolution

**Informatives:**

None.

**Submitted:**

8/27/21

**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
Central	2	Marianna ES	School	Construct an outdoor learning and gathering space of approximately 1,600 square feet. Includes the installation of decomposed granite and cement brush off areas, composite wood headers to create in-ground planting areas, new trees, a new irrigation system, log benches and stools to create a classroom gathering space, and picnic tables to create an outdoor dining garden. The project will be outfitted by the school site with drought tolerant planting.	\$100,000	Q4 2021	Q2 2022
Central	2	Murchison ES	School	Construct an outdoor learning and gathering space of approximately 2,000 square feet. Includes the installation of curvilinear bench seating, in-ground planting areas, new trees, a new irrigation system, salvaged log stools to create a classroom gathering space and colorful painted graphics on the pavement. The project will be outfitted by the school site with native and flowering plants to attract hummingbirds and butterflies.	\$100,000	Q2 2022	Q4 2022
South	7	75 <sup>th</sup> Street ES	Tree People/ School	Construct an outdoor learning and gathering space of approximately 4,300 square feet. Includes the installation of decomposed granite, permeable pavers, composite wood headers to create in-ground planting areas and pathways, an irrigation system, trees, log benches and stools to create a classroom gathering space and a reading garden, and picnic tables to create an outdoor dining garden. The project will be outfitted by the school site with native and drought tolerant plantings. The project will incorporate an existing 1,200 sf shade structure.	\$100,000	Q4 2021	Q2 2022
<b>TOTAL</b>					<b>\$300,000</b>		

\*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 Bartley**31<sup>st</sup> 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 &amp; Sorensen, LLP

**Lori Raineri and Keith Weaver – Oversight Consultants**

Government Financial Strategies

**Timothy Popejoy**

Bond Oversight Administrator

**Perla Zitle**

Bond Oversight Coordinator

**RESOLUTION 2021-25****BOARD REPORT NO. 037-21/22****AMENDMENT TO THE FACILITIES SERVICES DIVISION STRATEGIC EXECUTION PLAN TO DEFINE AND APPROVE THREE 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 three Sustainable Environment Enhancement Developments for Schools (SEEDS) projects at Marianna Elementary School, Murchison Elementary School and 75th Street Elementary School, as defined in Board Report 037-21/22, 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 \$300,000; 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

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

**RESOLUTION 2021-25****AMENDMENT TO THE FSD SEP TO DEFINE AND APPROVE THREE SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT ENHANCEMENT DEVELOPMENTS FOR SCHOOLS (SEEDS) PROJECTS**

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 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 three SEEDS projects at Marianna Elementary School, Murchison Elementary School and 75th Street Elementary School, with a total combined budget of \$300,000, as defined in Board Report 037-21/22, 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 September 2, 2021, by the following vote:

AYES: 12

ABSTENTIONS: 0

NAYS: 0

ABSENCES: 3

*/Rachel Greene/*

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Rachel Greene  
Chair

*/Margaret Fuentes/*

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Margaret Fuentes  
Secretary