



Invest a Minute

Allocation Committee Meeting Summary: July 10th, 2007 Portland Building

Members

Present: Clara Padilla Andrews, publisher of El Hispanic News; Ron Beltz, a businessman who represents the Portland Business Alliance; City Commissioner and Committee Chair Dan Saltzman; Multnomah County Commission Chair Ted Wheeler.

Action

- Renewal of funding for SUN programs at Fernwood, Jackson and Sellwood middle schools for 2007-08.

Upon staff's recommendation, the committee approved 3-1 funding the three middle school SUN programs for the new school year at their current level of \$87,700 per school.

To date, Portland Public Schools has been the Fund grantee for the SUN programs, subcontracting the bulk of the grant to Neighborhood House and Portland Impact to provide services. Under the new contract, SUN programming will be provided directly to students through Neighborhood House at Jackson and through Portland Impact at Fernwood and Sellwood. Funding directly through the service providers eliminates a level of administration and saves about \$15,000 in PPS administrative fees, staff noted.

- Funding Alder Elementary SUN program for FY 2007-08 only.

The committee also approved 3-1 funding Alder's SUN program next year using the \$15,000 in PPS savings, along with \$60,000 from reserve monies set aside to fund current grantees in FY 2008-09. Staff said the allocation would slightly reduce grantee inflation allowances in '08-'09.

Because of a loss of federal dollars, Alder's SUN program was slated to end in January '08. Alder is a high-need school, with 92 percent of its students in the free and reduced lunch program. Other student stats demonstrate the school's rapidly changing demographics and the need for support services like SUN: 71 percent are minority; 67 percent are English language learners and 60 percent met state math and reading benchmarks.

Beltz voted against both proposals, saying that while he supported the SUN programs he opposed eliminating PPS from the SUN contract. He said that contracting through PPS had worked seamlessly thus far and was beneficial to students. Staff said there will be no reduction in direct services to the three sites with the change and noted that most SUN programs operate directly with a service provider.

Staff advised committee members that a SUN Coordinating Council is meeting to make system-wide recommendations expected this fall on allocation of resources, core services, evaluation and other system issues.

OTHER:

✓ **Future Allocation Committee meetings will be announced and posted on the Fund's website: www.childrensinvestmentfund.org**

✓**If you missed the Allocation Committee meeting, watch it** on Portland Cable Channel 30 several times during the next week or so. Program listings can be found on a link from the Fund's website homepage at www.childreninvestmentfund.org. You can also view it on Portland Online (Real Player required) at <http://rs1.media.ci.portland.or.us:2259/ramgen/archives/chif071007.rm>

Portland voters in 2002 created the Children's Investment Fund supported through a five-year property tax levy annually generating \$10 million for 66 proven programs across the city. The Fund is annually audited and administrative costs do not exceed 5 percent. Questions/comments: mgbroderick@childreninvestmentfund.org

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