

Meeting Date: August 10, 2010

Item Title: Woodstock Childhood Development Center Update

Item Type: Information

BACKGROUND: The Governor's May Revision proposed elimination of all Proposition 98 funding for child care programs. While funding is currently intact for state preschool programs, we cannot plan on receiving funding required for the school-age and toddler programs at Woodstock Childhood Development Center. As a result, a letter was sent at the end of July by WCDC supervisor, Carol Barton, to inform families they should seek other programs as those WCDC programs now face possible closure at the end of August. Staff will update the Board on status.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS: Funds for WCDC school-age and toddler programs are not guaranteed. AUSD faces considerable losses should programs continue.

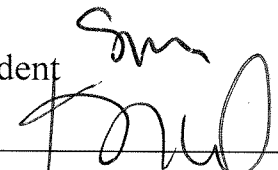
RECOMMENDATION: Discussion item

AUSD Guiding Principles:

1. All students have the ability to achieve academic and personal success
2. Teachers will challenge and support all students to reach their highest academic and personal potential
3. Administrators have the knowledge, leadership skills, and ability to ensure student success
4. Parental involvement and community engagement are integral to student success
5. Accountability, transparency, and trust are necessary at all levels of the organization
6. Allocation of funds will support our vision, mission, and guiding principles

Submitted by: Sean McPhetridge, Assistant Superintendent

Approved for Submission to Board of Education


Kirsten Vital, Superintendent

Woodstock Child Development Center Update

August 10, 2010

Update: State Child Care Funding

- The California May 2010 Budget Revision has proposed major cuts to many state-supported child care programs.
- While state funding cannot currently be anticipated for either toddler or school-age programs across the state, funding for preschool programs is expected to remain funded at same levels as in the previous school year.
- As a result, many other school districts are now closing programs as it is anticipated that necessary funding for these programs will not be approved in the state budget.

AUSD School–Age & Toddler Programs

- On July 26th, AUSD's Supervisor of Woodstock Child Development Center mailed letters to WCDC families informing them of the impact on AUSD as a result of California budget uncertainties.
- In that letter, families were informed of WCDC's need to close its toddler and school–age programs there and also at Ruby Bridges and Haight Elementary Schools.
- Thus, August 27th was announced as the last day for these programs because of state funding uncertainties.
- In 2009-2010, there were 24 year-round toddlers enrolled.
- 80-120 school-aged children were enrolled last year.

Update: WCDC Pre-School Program

- While approximately 50% of WCDC funding is proposed to be terminated, WCDC expects a contracted amount of \$855,419 to continue its existing preschool programs for 3-5 year olds meeting family income guidelines.
- WCDC hopes to serve approximately 100 students over 245 days in the 2010-2011 school year regardless of currently projected budget constraints.
- Of ten classrooms that are in use at WCDC currently, we envision only five being required for pre-school programs in the year ahead as a result of loss of program funding.

Update: Additional Concerns

- The WCDC and Island High School sites located on Singleton Avenue face new concerns with regard to previously unassessed charges from their leaseholder.
- Moreover, these sites are also remote for many families and students served, providing inconvenience for access with regard to public transportation and conveniences.
- There is real potential for significant cost savings and programmatic improvement should AUSD child care and pre-school programs be located at AUSD-owned sites.