

City of Seattle & Seattle School District No. 1 PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

In Support of the Families, Education, Preschool, & Promise Levy



This Partnership Agreement is entered into by the City of Seattle and Seattle School District No. 1 (“Seattle Public Schools” or “SPS”) for the purpose of outlining roles and responsibilities with respect to the City of Seattle Families, Education, Preschool, and Promise Levy.

Section 1. THE FAMILIES, EDUCATION, PRESCHOOL, AND PROMISE LEVY

In November 2018, Seattle voters approved the Families, Education, Preschool, and Promise Levy (FEPP Levy)¹ to invest property tax revenues to provide education support services through the City of Seattle and its partners – Seattle Public Schools (SPS), Seattle Colleges, Public Health – Seattle & King County, and community-based organizations – to work collectively and collaboratively with a Levy Oversight Committee to provide Seattle students and families with:

- Access to, and services across, a continuum beginning with high-quality early learning services that prepare children for success in kindergarten;
- Physical and mental health services that support learning;
- College- and job-readiness experiences that promote high school graduation; and
- Post-secondary opportunities that promote attainment of a certificate, credential, or degree.

Section 2. PARTNERSHIP STATEMENT: CITY OF SEATTLE AND SEATTLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

The City of Seattle (the City) and Seattle Public Schools share a commitment to ensure that all students graduate high school prepared for college, career, and life. Seattle Public Schools is the Local Education Agency (LEA) in the City of Seattle. As the LEA, SPS serves as the lead education institution providing high quality learning experiences for students and has demonstrated expertise in utilizing best practices for early learning, K-12, and college and career readiness. Through the FEPP Levy, the City and SPS have a unique opportunity to continue the legacy that began with the first Families and Education Levy in 1990. The FEPP Levy marks a new era for SPS and the City that extends to the crucial early learning years before children enter kindergarten and sustains students’ progress into post-secondary opportunities that will provide skills and access to participate in Seattle’s vibrant economy.

Working together, the City, acting primarily through the Department of Education and Early Learning (DEEL), and SPS will pursue the priorities identified in the FEPP Ordinance:

- Invest in Seattle children, students, families, and communities who have been historically underserved to increase access to educational opportunities across the education continuum.

¹ Per City of Seattle Ordinance 125604

- Assure data-driven and outcomes-based decision making.
- Implement or continue evidence-based strategies and promising practices to improve program quality and achieve equity in educational outcomes.
- Provide access to capacity-building opportunities among partner organizations for historically-underserved Seattle communities to improve program instruction, quality, and infrastructure.

Section 3. TERM

This Partnership Agreement will be approved by Seattle City Council resolution and Seattle Public Schools Board of Directors and must be in effect before FEPP Levy proceeds may be invested in SPS. The term of this Partnership Agreement will be effective on the date of signature by both parties and will end on December 31, 2026, unless terminated earlier by mutual agreement or by law. Either the City or SPS may propose amendments to this Agreement consistent with The Plan, SPS’ Strategic Plan, and SPS’ Policies and Procedures. Amendments to the Partnership Agreement that are consistent with Ordinance 125604 and the Plan do not require Seattle City Council approval. Substantive amendments to the Partnership Agreement are subject to approval by the SPS Board of Directors, notwithstanding minor additions, deletions, and modifications.

Section 4. ADDITIONAL AGREEMENTS

Multiple agreements will collectively define the working relationship between Seattle Public Schools and the City. In addition to this overarching partnership agreement, SPS and the City will develop Project Agreements, a General Agency Agreement (GAA), and a Data Sharing Agreement (DSA) to further define the shared work:

- **Project Agreements.** Project Agreements are contracts that define the specific roles and responsibilities of each party for each project/scope of work funded by the FEPP Levy. Project Agreements are renegotiated annually, subject to mutual agreement and are approved according to Seattle School Board policy.
- **General Agency Agreement.** SPS and DEEL will negotiate a single GAA which will establish the general terms and conditions applicable to all Project Agreements. The GAA is a standard document that will be incorporated into each Project Agreement without further negotiation or amendment, provided that DEEL and SPS may mutually agree to amend the GAA from time to time.
- **Data Sharing Agreement.** The DSA will be a contract to share data according to certain terms and conditions described in more detail in Section 7. It will be negotiated annually and will describe the purpose and responsibilities of SPS and DEEL for the contract year with respect to data including funding.

Section 5. PRIORITIZED STUDENTS AND COMMUNITIES²

FEPP funding will prioritize programs that advance educational equity for historically-underserved groups including: African American/Black, Hispanic/Latino, Native American, Pacific Islander,

² As defined in Ordinance 125604

underserved Asian populations, other students of color, refugees and immigrants, homeless, English language learners, and LGBTQ students. The City and SPS share a commitment to high quality, inclusive Early Learning environments for children with disabilities.

Section 6. FEPP OUTCOMES

FEPP funds are intended to positively impact academic achievement, attain educational equity, and close opportunity gaps for historically underserved students through measurable improvements in students' academic proficiency and growth. SPS and DEEL share the commitment to advancing equity as currently defined in SPS' Strategic Plan and Six Signature Strategies, and as a stated value for DEEL, which recognizes that different circumstances require different approaches, allocations of resources, or other considerations to yield equal outcomes.

DEEL and SPS agree that FEPP investments will yield results for Seattle students, improve program quality, promote system alignments, and measurably improve:

Access to Equitable Educational Opportunities. Accomplished through multiple investment approaches including expanded learning³ and academic supports, college and career readiness programming, tuition subsidies, and facilities development.

High-Quality Learning Environments. Accomplished through multiple investment approaches including professional development, capacity building among partner organizations, academic interventions, educator diversity, and culturally-responsive practices.

Student and Family Supports. Accomplished through multiple investment approaches including student health services, family engagement, and whole child supports.

Expected outcomes, strategies to achieve those outcomes, and performance targets will be defined annually in Project Agreements and the Data Sharing Agreement. Measurement tools to assess child and youth outcomes will include assessments selected for use in the Seattle Preschool Program and for K-12, Washington state assessments, and assessments adopted by SPS.

Section 7. DATA

SPS and DEEL have a shared interest in using actionable data that supports accountability for preschool through post-secondary investments and continuous learning. Data sharing between the SPS and DEEL is subject to all state and federal laws including FERPA⁴. The DSA will specify data elements, formats, data security and privacy requirements, and frequency for reporting.

³ Expanded learning opportunities are defined as learning opportunities provided by schools and CBOs (that) create enriching experiences for youth after school and in the summer with activities that complement and support classroom-based instruction. *Expanded Learning Opportunities Guide. Toolkit for School Districts in Washington, 2017. Expanded Learning Opportunities Council. (Established in 2014 under Second Substitute Senate Bill 6163.)*

⁴ Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974

Data organized at the individual student level will support the interests of SPS and DEEL in monitoring student program participation, tracking targets and outcomes, informing course corrections, evaluating programs, communicating progress, and sharing challenges and achievements.

Shared data priorities include:

- Student demographics and characteristics, including SPS student identification numbers and special education status
- Self-perception and school climate data
- Attendance and mobility
- Preschool assessments
- K-12 academic assessments and academic achievement
- English proficiency
- Disciplinary actions
- College and career readiness
- High school graduation
- Post-secondary persistence and completion
- Educator diversity
- Student perception of program effectiveness/importance
- Program impact on student achievement
- Program effectiveness
- Equitable access
- Program inclusiveness
- Gains in equity and achievement trends disaggregated among racial and ethnic groups

SPS and DEEL commit to accountability by collecting and analyzing student information and investment results over time, and facilitating dissemination and utilization of data across stakeholders, including community partners, families, and students. DEEL intends to complete comprehensive and longitudinal analyses across all FEPP investments requiring that students be identified and consistently linked from preschool, through K-12, and Seattle Promise.

Section 8. FEPP IMPLEMENTATION AND EVALUATION PLAN

DEEL engaged representatives from SPS, whose input was integral to the process, along with other stakeholders – including Seattle Colleges; other City departments; students, families and historically underserved communities; community-based organizations (CBOs); Public Health – Seattle & King County (PHSKC); and others – in the creation of the FEPP Implementation and Evaluation Plan (The Plan).

The Plan sets forth priority criteria and outcomes by which FEPP education-support services will be selected and evaluated, the process and schedule by which DEEL will select and contract with partners to provide services, and the evaluation methodology to measure both individual investments and overall impacts of FEPP investments. FEPP funds will be spent only in accordance with The Plan and Project Agreements.

Section 9. EDUCATION-SUPPORT SERVICES⁵

SPS central office staff, in collaboration with building principals, will provide leadership to implement the following four categories of FEPP Education-Support Projects and achieve Levy outcomes:

Preschool and Early Learning. Major program elements are intended to increase children’s kindergarten readiness and may include: financial support for preschool and child care tuition, support for early learning infrastructure development and quality teaching, and comprehensive supports to meet the needs of children in preschool classrooms.

The Seattle Preschool Program (SPP) seeks to establish strong collaboration and alignment among the city’s early learning providers, including SPS, community-based organizations, and family child care providers. DEEL will support SPS efforts to assure alignment of SPP and other SPS early learning programs with the elementary grades in Seattle Public Schools, and SPS will partner with DEEL and community-based early learning providers in strengthening the P-5 continuum across Seattle.

Since 2015, SPS has provided high-quality early learning programs through SPP, and since 2017 has provided SPP Plus serving young children needing special education supports. SPS and DEEL will continue to work collaboratively on educational support services for children receiving special education services by strengthening the SPP Plus model, increasing the number of sites, and expanding the continuum of services for students with disabilities in inclusive settings; subject to capacity, space, and funding, and SPS’ legal obligations. Seattle Public Schools is responsible for providing free and appropriate public education to students with disabilities. The Seattle Preschool Program will make necessary program adjustments for SPS to comply with federal and state law applicable to serving students with disabilities.

As outlined in The Plan, the City and SPS will annually negotiate the number of SPP and SPP Plus classrooms that SPS will manage. Prior to making annual awards to SPP providers that are housed in Seattle Public Schools buildings, SPS will communicate with DEEL regarding building capacity projections. Similarly, as decisions are made on the continuation of community alignment agreements with community-based organizations, SPS will inform DEEL of potential displacements. These communications will occur each year in January.

To achieve stated outcomes, SPS and DEEL commit to consistent communication and collaboration between their organizations, among school staff, and across community partners and stakeholders. SPS will ensure designated staff lead the efforts to implement FEPP-funded programs within school buildings, and SPS leaders will seek input from DEEL as SPS pursues the goals of FEPP Levy investments. Similarly, DEEL will seek input from SPS on DEEL’s work specific to SPS’ role in the FEPP Levy.

K-12 School and Community-Based Investments. Major program elements are intended to increase students’ achievement of education milestones and address opportunity and

⁵ Section 6 of Ordinance 125604 defines the education-support services that frame this partnership agreement.

achievement gaps across English/Language Arts, Math, and Science, as well as social, emotional, behavioral, and college and career readiness domains. Program elements may include: expanded learning opportunities; out-of-school and summer learning; academic tutoring, mentoring and case management; social, emotional and behavioral skill building; culturally responsive programming and family engagement activities; college and job readiness activities and college admissions supports; job exploration activities; advising and guidance related to college and career, and efforts to advance diversity among the educator workforce.

To achieve stated outcomes, FEPP K-12 and community-based investments will require collaboration within SPS, between SPS and DEEL, and between SPS and community-based organizations. Collaboration will focus on achieving positive outcomes for students, maximizing resources, and assuring alignment along the continuum of elementary, middle, and high schools, and into post-secondary opportunities, including Seattle Promise. SPS central office leadership and school principals will lead efforts focused on successful transitions from preschool through post-secondary. School principals will collaborate with or oversee FEPP-funded programs delivered within their buildings by school staff and community-based organizations in order to achieve positive results.

SPS and DEEL commit to consistent communication between their organizations, among school staff, and across community partners and stakeholders. SPS leaders will seek input from DEEL as SPS pursues the goals of FEPP investments. Similarly, DEEL will seek input from SPS on DEEL's work specific to the FEPP Levy.

K-12 School Health. Major program elements are intended to provide safe, age-appropriate, culturally-responsive care to help children be healthy and ready to learn and may include but are not limited to: comprehensive primary medical care, mental health care, care coordination, connection to community supports, outreach, and health education.

SPS will collaborate with PHSKC and DEEL to support PHSKC's implementation of comprehensive medical and mental health services through school-based health centers in SPS school buildings over the course of the FEPP Levy.

Seattle Promise. Major program elements are intended to increase student access to post-secondary and job training opportunities and may include, but are not limited to: academic preparation, post-secondary success coaches, readiness academies, outreach, onboarding, advising, the equivalent of up to two years of financial support for tuition, and equity scholarship support.

To achieve the goals of Seattle Promise, SPS and DEEL commit to consistent communication and collaboration between organizations, among school staff, across community partners and stakeholders, and with Seattle Colleges. SPS, working in partnership with DEEL and Seattle Colleges, will strive for a shared definition and approach to college and career readiness, inform Seattle Promise implementation, and promotion of college and career readiness for students in Seattle Public Schools. DEEL will seek input from SPS on DEEL's work specific to FEPP investments in Seattle Promise as they relate to SPS.

Section 10. **CONTRACTING PROCESS**

DEEL will partner with SPS to identify the highest need students, schools, and communities and will invest in programs that develop and implement detailed work plans to effectively use FEPP funding to serve historically-underserved students and achieve FEPP Levy intended outcomes.

As detailed in The Plan, Project Agreements will be awarded to SPS through two approaches: direct awards to SPS and select schools, and SPS school-based awards that result from competitive processes among schools. For competitive awards, DEEL will release Requests for Investment (RFIs) detailing FEPP funding priorities, and will request responses from school-based leadership teams. As appropriate, representatives from among SPS leaders and managers will be invited to collaborate in the development of RFI criteria and participate in RFI review panels. SPS and DEEL will create procedures to ensure SPS participation in developing criteria and in reviewing responses to RFIs avoids any conflict of interest.

Investments will be directed toward program elements detailed above in Education-Support Projects, to advance FEPP priorities. Specific uses of funding will be detailed in annual Project Agreements. To assure adequate and appropriate staffing, SPS will support the interests of FEPP-funded programs and the requirements of expanded learning opportunities to implement programs and achieve outcomes. Operational costs to support nutrition and transportation services will be negotiated in Project Agreements.

All investments must be consistent with The Plan, and there is no assurance of continued City funding for any agreement beyond the 2025-26 school year. FEPP Levy investments must supplement and complement existing public funding structures and must not be used to supplant federal, state, local or SPS funds or drive allocation of other funding. Additionally, the City shall not be deemed to have assumed SPS' obligations under federal or state law by virtue of the City's provision of FEPP Levy funding.

Section 11. **PARTNERING WITH FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES**

DEEL and SPS share a commitment to foster authentic student, family, and community relationships to promote academic success and center family and community voice in schools. DEEL and SPS will maximize partnerships with community, cultural, and language-based organizations, and assure access to a diversity of resources that strengthen families and communities across Seattle, and further achievement of FEPP outcomes.⁶ In addition, SPS and DEEL will respond to coordinated and collaborative opportunities to leverage private support within DEEL-funded programs and community-based organizations.

Section 12. **ENGAGEMENT, COMMUNICATION AND SHARED MESSAGING**

The commencement of the FEPP Levy presents an opportunity to deepen the partnership between Seattle Public Schools and the City, focused on a mutual commitment to Seattle students. The individual and collective strengths of SPS and the City are well positioned to assure that all students in SPS, regardless of race, gender, socioeconomic status, language proficiency, learning style or disability,

⁶ Per City of Seattle Ordinance 125604

achieve to their highest levels. It is in our shared interest to support students during their academic journeys in Seattle Public Schools, and in their college, career, and life pursuits upon graduation. Through partnership on the FEPP Levy, SPS and DEEL will:

Maximize Communication and Improve Collaboration. Representatives from the City and SPS will communicate and collaborate to assure successful implementation of FEPP-funded programs by participating in multiple forums including monthly partnership meetings among the City Mayor, Seattle Public Schools Superintendent, and DEEL Director, of which every third month (quarterly) will include Seattle Colleges' Chancellor; monthly Levy Oversight Committee meetings; and regular meetings of Seattle Promise partners, which also includes Seattle Colleges and key community stakeholders.

Presidents and leadership from Seattle Colleges, and principals and leadership from SPS high schools will meet regularly, as will staff from Seattle Colleges, DEEL, and Seattle Public Schools who are responsible for Seattle Promise program success.

FEPP-focused staff from SPS and DEEL will meet monthly in work groups that will provide a structure for the development of shared metrics and definitions, and joint programmatic reviews. Shared work plans will facilitate communication on multiple factors that influence FEPP implementation for both SPS and DEEL including key timelines, professional development, space use, schedules and organizational constraints, and collaboration with community-based organizations.

Establish Partnership Norms. SPS and DEEL are approaching this agreement with the intent to work together as thought partners focused on solutions, and with clear understanding of confidentiality constraints. Discussion and documentation of norms will occur within the structure of monthly work groups.

Strengthen Shared Voice. FEPP investments in SPS will provide occasions to message to the public that SPS and DEEL are working together to use taxpayer dollars with fidelity, providing the education-support services defined in the FEPP ordinance. SPS and DEEL will seek opportunities for both joint and aligned messaging, as well as opportunities to highlight FEPP successes across all partners: Seattle Public Schools, Seattle Colleges, PHSKC, community-based organizations and the City.

Section 13. FACILITIES

In accordance with Seattle Public Schools policies, SPS will, when possible, make space available for programming from the City, Seattle Colleges, PHSKC, and community-based organizations who are collaborating with SPS to achieve FEPP results for Seattle Public School students. Use of space will be limited to roles/positions that do not exist within SPS. This provision is intended to align with and does not supersede or amend other facilities use agreements between the parties.

Section 14. USE OF FEPP FUNDS

Indirect funds on all FEPP investments will be capped at 9.8% with the exception of SPP which will be capped at 13.83%.

FEPP will invest funding to cover SPS staffing costs (budget, accounting, contracts, grants) associated with FEPP programming. In addition, one FTE providing direct 100% support to FEPP-funded programming will be invested.

These investments will adhere to the implementation principle that, FEPP proceeds are supplemental and complementary to existing public funding structures and services and FEPP funding is never used to supplant existing public funding.

SIGNATURES:

CITY OF SEATTLE

SEATTLE SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1

BY: _____
Mayor Jenny Durkan

By: _____
Superintendent Denise Juneau

Date

Date

Approved by Seattle City Council
on: _____

Approved by Seattle School Board
on: _____