



SEATTLE PRESCHOOL PROGRAM

**2015-16 UPDATES
PROPOSED SHIFTS FOR 2016-17**

Seattle Department of
Education and Early
Learning
May 4, 2016

BRIEFING GOALS

1. Provide an update on the implementation of the Seattle Preschool Program.
2. Discuss recommended course corrections.

GOAL OF SPP

On November 4, 2014, Seattle voters approved a four-year, \$58 million property tax levy to provide “accessible high-quality preschool services for Seattle children designed to improve their readiness for school and to support their subsequent academic achievement.”

(City of Seattle Proposition 1B, preamble).



SPP STUDENTS

- Priority enrollment for 4-year-olds
- Open to 3-year-olds from families 300% FPL and below (~\$6,000/month for a family of 4)
- Sliding scale for tuition (free for many)

DEMONSTRATION PHASE (2015-18)

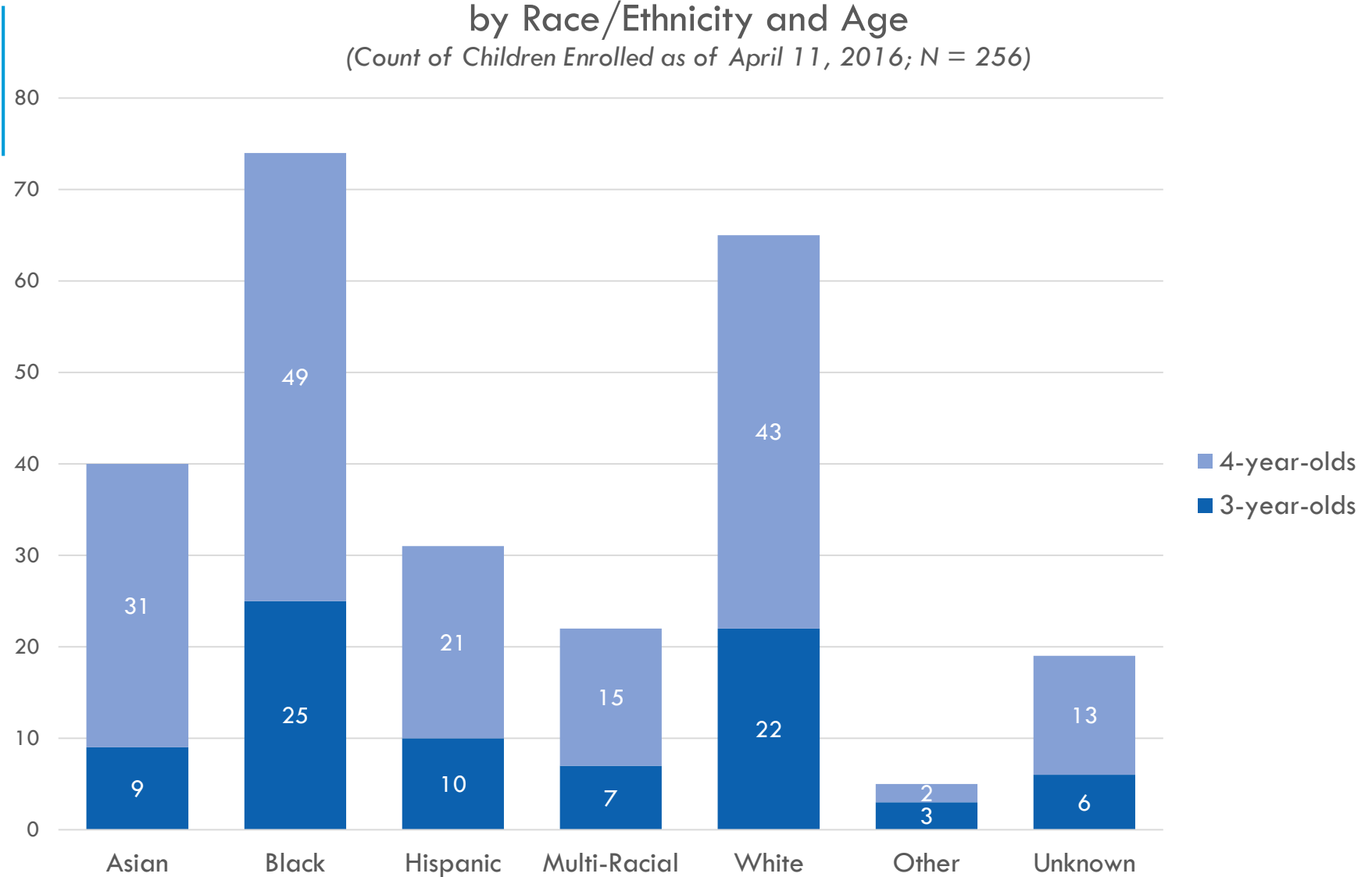
1. Which elements originally adopted for SPP need to be in place to provide high quality preschool?
2. How do the adopted SPP elements affect the different types of providers? (CBOs, SPS)
3. How responsive are we to individual children and family needs?
4. What policy modifications could support racial equity and social justice?

YEAR ONE: SNAPSHOT

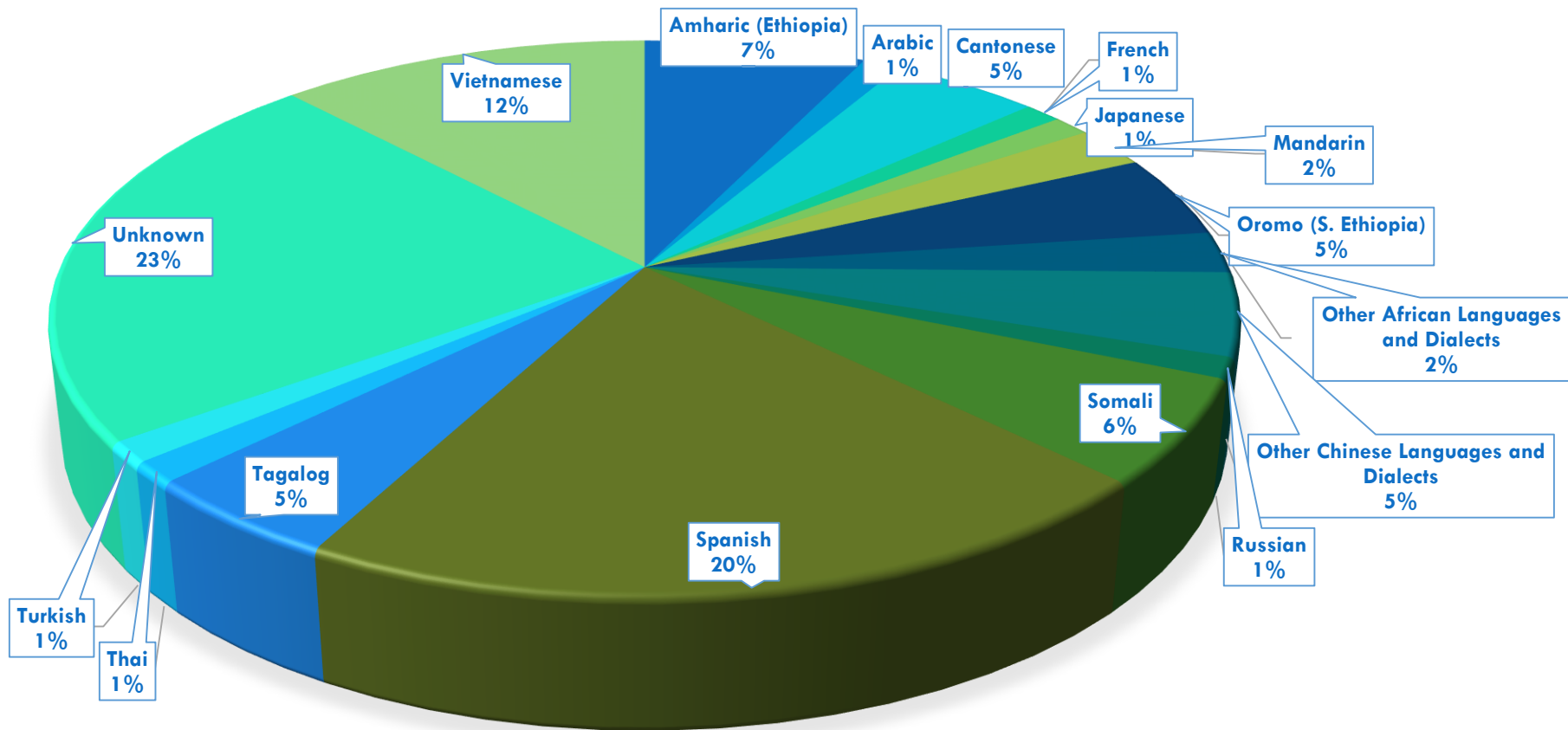
Number of Classrooms	15
Number of different sites	13
Number of students	256

2015-16 SPP Participants by Race/Ethnicity and Age

(Count of Children Enrolled as of April 11, 2016; N = 256)



PRIMARY LANGUAGE OF SPP NON-ENGLISH PARTICIPANTS (30%)



TUITION PAYMENT AMOUNT, 2015-16

Tuition Payment Amount	#	%
None - Free	203	79%
Partial Tuition	46	18%
Full Tuition	8	3%
Grand Total	257	100%

LESSONS LEARNED IN YEAR ONE

1. Seattle holds a common vision for access to high quality preschool for all.
2. Providers and families deeply value the continuity of care.
3. One size does not fit all.
4. Challenges remain for providers to join SPP, including moving to full-day programming, space, child selection policies and reimbursement structure.

POLICY PROPOSALS

Continuity of Care:

1. Creating quality transitions into Kindergarten
2. Minimizing transitions for children and families
3. Aligning with specialized program requirements

Organizational eligibility:

1. Two classroom minimum
2. Curriculum waiver process
3. Classroom composition

CONTINUITY OF CARE: SCHOOL CONTINUITY AMENDMENT

Implementation Plan, pp. 15-16, Selection and Enrollment.

Proposed **additions in red**:

1. Children whose sibling is currently enrolled in SPP **or in a school building where an SPP classroom is housed** and would be concurrently enrolled (in the same year) with the sibling will be prioritized.
2. Children living in the same SPS middle school attendance area as an SPP classroom will receive priority over children living in other parts of the City. **For SPP classrooms located in school buildings, priority will be given to children who are eligible to continue in that school for kindergarten.**

CONTINUITY OF CARE: CAREGIVER CONTINUITY AMENDMENT

Implementation Plan, p. 16, *Provider Agency-Managed Selection and Grandfathering*

Children meeting SPP's eligibility criteria who are currently enrolled with a contracted agency **may** be grandfathered into the program. **In the first year of a site's SPP contract, all eligible children will be eligible for grandfathering. Thereafter, the percentage of children grandfathered into program classrooms will be determined on an annual basis by DEEL.**

CONTINUITY OF CARE: PROGRAMMATIC ALIGNMENT AMENDMENT

Proposed **addition in red:**

SPP agencies with SPP classrooms that offer Head Start, ECEAP, dual language programs, or special education services may select a percentage of the children for these classrooms. The agency-selected children must meet SPP's eligibility criteria. The percentage of agency-selected participants will be determined on an annual basis by DEEL.

ONE SIZE DOES NOT FIT ALL: ORGANIZATIONAL ELIGIBILITY AMENDMENTS

Action Plan, p. 11, proposed **deletion in purple:**

In order to participate in the program, organizations must commit to:

- Providing two or more preschool classrooms
- Ensuring that all children in contracted classrooms are Seattle residents
- adhering to the program standards listed herein.

ONE SIZE DOES NOT FIT ALL: CURRICULA AMENDMENT

Action Plan, p. 14, proposed **deletion in purple:**
After 2018, a curriculum waiver process will be considered for high-quality providers.

STRUCTURE OF LEGISLATION

Ordinance regarding the Seattle Preschool Program, amending the Action Plan as adopted by Ord. 124509 and the Implementation Plan as adopted by Ord. 124749

- Attachment A – Amendments to the Seattle Preschool Program Action Plan
- Attachment B – Amended Seattle Preschool Program Action Plan
- Attachment C – Amendments to the Seattle Preschool Program Implementation Plan
- Attachment D – Amended Seattle Preschool Program Implementation Plan

CONCLUSION

The goal of SPP is to provide “accessible high-quality preschool services for Seattle children designed to improve their readiness for school and to support their subsequent academic achievement.”



THANK YOU