



City of Seattle
Edward B. Murray, Mayor



Superintendent Larry Nyland

May 5, 2015

Executive Committee of the Seattle Public Schools Board of Directors
Seattle School District
Attention: Board of Directors
MS 11-010
PO Box 34165
Seattle, WA 98124-1165

City of Seattle Levy Oversight Committee
Seattle Department of Education and Early Learning
700 5th Ave, Suite 1700
PO Box 94665
Seattle, WA 98124-6965

Re: City of Seattle and Seattle Public Schools Partnership Agreement

Dear Executive Committee and Levy Oversight Committee:

It is with great pleasure that we present, for your consideration, a draft Partnership Agreement between the City of Seattle and Seattle Public Schools related to implementation of the Seattle Preschool Program. In November 2014, Seattle voters approved the demonstration phase of a universal preschool program with voter support of over 69%. We heard their message clearly – our City supports high-quality, affordable early learning for all.

This Agreement represents another step toward eliminating the opportunity gap. Since the passage of the first Families and Education Levy, the City and the District have been collaborating to support Levy-funded programs and services to improve academic outcomes for students who need it most. With every iteration of the Levy, the City and the District have improved processes and solidified our partnership.

We would like to thank District and City staff for their cooperation and coordination in drafting this Partnership Agreement and ensuring that District and City interests were considered and protected. The City and the District have vested interests in ensuring the quality of children's experiences and academic success from early childhood through college, but we also have a responsibility to ensure public monies are used as intended. This Agreement affirms these commitments.

The attached Partnership Agreement:

- ✓ Emphasizes the **collaborative relationship between the City and the District** in the education of our youngest students and reiterates the City's intention to negotiate District participation as an SPP provider annually.
- ✓ Recognizes our shared commitment to reaching **mutually beneficial agreements with equitable funding structures**.
- ✓ Acknowledges our joint goal of promoting practices that **support positive preschool-to-kindergarten transitions** for all SPP/SPS children to improve academic outcomes.

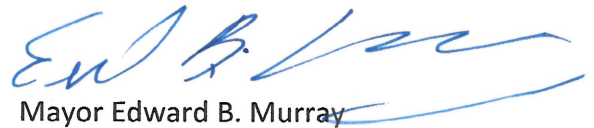
Our community deserves an aligned approach with seamless transitions and coordinated efforts, and we thank you for your dedication to our City and participation in this process. Given our goal of launching 14 high-quality preschool classes in September, we are eager for you to review this Partnership Agreement and refer it to the Seattle Public Schools Board of Directors and the Seattle City Council in May 2015. We hope you see fit to move this Agreement forward.

We believe that this Partnership Agreement will protect the interests of all concerned and take advantage of the opportunities presented by the Seattle Preschool Program.

Sincerely,



Superintendent Larry Nyland



Mayor Edward B. Murray