

To: Board of Education

From: Kevin Harrell, executive director, student support/special education  
Laura Basham, assistant director, special education/early childhood

RE: Approve to be tiny-k Early Intervention Services Local Lead and Fiscal Agency

Date: January 18, 2018

Background:

On January 8, 2018, the Board of Education heard a report about tiny-k program services and a request to change the Local Lead and Fiscal Agency for tiny-k Early Intervention Services to USD 497, beginning with the 2018-2019 school year.

The Board of Directors of tiny-k Early Intervention Services of Douglas County approached USD 497 administrative staff last year with a request for USD 497 to become the lead/fiscal agency, and ultimately, responsible for tiny-k Early Intervention Services in Douglas County beginning August of 2018.

Tiny k, also known as the Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA) Part C program serves qualifying infants and toddlers age 0-3 years old throughout Douglas County. It is a federally regulated program and family-centered services would continue as outlined in the Kansas Infant-Toddler Services Procedure Manual.

Rationale:

The Kansas Education System Accreditation (KESA) process and the Kansas Kindergarten Readiness initiative support systems thinking and bringing parts together to create a larger system with shared positive impacts. tiny-k provide services and support to future Lawrence Public School students, this merger fits with strengthening the 5R's (Results, Relationships, Relevance, Responsive Culture, Rigor) of the KESA process. KSDE supports this change.

Additionally, supporting our district mission: "Lawrence USD 497 is a learning community committed to ensuring educational equity and excellence so that students of all races and backgrounds achieve at high levels and graduate prepared for success in college, careers and life in a diverse and rapidly changing world" along with Board goals focused on areas of equity, excellence, and engagement, this merger will grow our district's reach to qualifying students in need at an earlier age and create a continuous support system for individuals as developmental needs change throughout a child's experience in LPS.

tiny-k is primarily funded through a state non-competitive grant process (similar to Parents as Teachers and 4 year old at risk preschool program) State Categorical Aid, Federal Medicaid. Historically tiny-k has been a self-sustaining program. With tiny-k becoming part of Lawrence Public Schools, it brings the opportunity to blend funding streams and program resources to effectively support all early learning programs offered by LPS. Opportunities to restructure our current Early Childhood Department will also be

a benefit to effectively support all early learning programs and ultimately strengthen early learning services in our community.

At the January 8, 2018 meeting, the preliminary estimate of additional cost to the district, was zero to \$57,292, and somewhere in the middle is the likely cost. All of which would be covered by existing district Medicaid funds, no general or local option budget funds would be required.

Assumptions around budget estimate:

- Same FTE as current tiny-k program,
- Planning for 30 Extra Days on 5.0 Positions for summer support of Tiny k families
- Part C Grant to be the same amount in 2018-2019 as it is in 2017-2018
- 2017-2018 State Categorical Aid amount used for planning
- Medicaid Funding at least the same, anticipate increasing

**As of January 22, 2018 Proposed Budget Snapshot of the program:**

<b>Expense</b>	<b>FTE</b>	<b>Total Cost</b>	<b>Categorical Aid</b>	<b>Grant Part C</b>	<b>Medicaid</b>
Personnel	8.25	442,584	211,875	196,580	34,129
Employer Costs and Benefits		97,994		80,113	17,881
Staff Travel		26,000	20,800	5,200	
Supplies and Printing		4,000		1,355	2,645
Laptops/Electronic Equipment		2,000			2,000
Professional Contracted Services		15,000			15,000
Professional Development		2,500		2,500	
Children's Equipment/OAR Supplies		1,050			1,050
<b>Totals</b>		<b>591,128</b>	<b>232,675</b>	<b>285,748</b>	<b>72,705</b>
<b>Funding Sources</b>					
Funding similar to Tiny K existing Grant			232,675	285,748	50,000
Additional Medicaid Funds					22,705

No new general fund or local option budget funding will be needed in this transition of services.

Recommendation:

Opportunities to restructure our current Early Childhood Department will be a benefit to effectively supporting all early learning programs and ultimately strengthen early learning services in our community. Administration recommends approving the request to change the Local Lead/Fiscal Agency for tiny-k Early Intervention Services to USD 497, beginning with the 2018-2019 school year.

Motion

"I move the board of education approve the request to change the Local Lead/Fiscal Agency for tiny-k Early Intervention Services to USD 497, beginning with the 2018-2019 school year. "

