

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

In the Matter of Creating the Schools/County)
Benchmark Account and Establishing) R E S O L U T I O N
Guidelines for Receipts and Disbursements) 94-119

WHEREAS it is part of Multnomah County's mission to create conditions for children that will enable them to be healthy, safe and well cared for; and

WHEREAS services currently provided by school districts within Multnomah County play an essential role in that task; and

WHEREAS school districts in Multnomah County face the elimination of many of these services due to insufficient funding; and

WHEREAS some of these services could be effectively and appropriately provided by Multnomah County; and

WHEREAS the possibility of increased revenues gives Multnomah County the opportunity to offer assistance to school districts.

WHEREAS, the Portland Multnomah County Progress Board and the Board of County Commissioners have adopted community and county benchmarks, respectively, which express the collective resolve of our community and county and serve as a stimulus for collective effort, and

WHEREAS, the Multnomah Commission on Children and Families (MCCF) is a thirty member group composed of citizen and professional representatives of schools, business, advocacy organizations, law enforcement, early childhood organizations, parks, juvenile, health, and the clergy, and

WHEREAS, the Multnomah Commission on Children and Families has selected key benchmarks to guide its development of a comprehensive plan for children and families, and

WHEREAS, the Multnomah Commission on Children and Families, in conjunction with county departments and divisions, is charged with identifying opportunities to leverage additional money to support families and children, and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners recognizes that this Benchmark Account does not substitute for a solution to the much larger school funding issue.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,

1. There is hereby created a School/County Benchmark Account.

2. That the first \$1,000,000 of general fund revenues received by Multnomah County in excess of July 1, 1994 estimates for the 1993-4 fiscal year be placed in Multnomah County's general reserve as unappropriated balance.
3. That the next \$500,000 of general fund revenues in excess of \$1,000,000 above July 1, 1994 revenue estimates for 1993-94 be placed in the School/County Benchmark Account. The amount of money to be placed in the account will be reviewed by the Board following the final receipt of revenues and the November election.
4. The Schools/County Benchmark Account shall be dedicated to funding innovative, collaborative strategies between and among the County and County school districts which assist in achieving the MCCF Benchmarks for children and families and which enable schools to reduce their financial obligations.
5. Staff from the Chair's office, the Board, and the MCCF will work with the school districts to define a list of services that the schools have funded that are consistent with the County's mission and are at risk because of funding cutbacks. Staff will report the results to the Board.
6. MCCF, in conjunction with County departments and divisions, shall facilitate the development of innovative, collaborative strategies that continue priority services to students and their families in County schools.
7. MCCF and County departments and divisions will recommend innovative, collaborative strategies to the Chair and Board.
8. MCCF will advocate with other jurisdictions and partners to provide financial support to funding recommended strategies.
9. Disbursements from this fund will be made by the Board of County Commissioners as part of the 1995-6 budget process.
10. The Board of County Commissioners is committed to assisting efforts to find long range solutions to school funding issues.

APPROVED this 16th day of June, 1994.

MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

By

Beverly Stein
Beverly Stein
Multnomah County Chair

REVIEWED:

Laurence Kressel
LAURENCE KRESSEL, COUNTY COUNSEL
for MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

By

DR
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