



Children & Families
Commission of Orange County

**Agenda Item No. 5
November 5, 2008 Meeting**

DATE: October 28, 2008
TO: Children and Families Commission of Orange County
FROM: Michael M. Ruane, Executive Director *Michael M. Ruane*
SUBJECT: MIND Research Institute Math Literacy Project

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ORANGE COUNTY
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

SUMMARY:

At the July meeting, your Commission approved several related actions designed to protect local Prop 10 funding for children and families and develop future funding strategies consistent with Bridgespan recommendations. Commission actions included direction to continue expansion of early learning investments. This agenda item provides a recommendation to address early achievement gaps through an investment in math literacy.

BACKGROUND:

Early math ability upon entry to kindergarten is a strong predictor of later academic success. To this end, early childhood math education holds great potential for improving later school achievement particularly with low socio-economic status students. Commission staff reviewed the strategies to support math literacy including a review of the MIND Research Institute's (MIND) math software and recommend a partnership to explore development of a preschool component to their series of products. The proposed project scope is described on Attachment 1. A criterion for software development is that the product would be responsive to the California Preschool Learning Foundations.

MIND Research Institute – MIND, an Orange County based nonprofit organization, has developed interactive math instructional software programs to engage and train students at varying levels of academic and language proficiency. MIND's programs have been used at the kindergarten level for four years. Currently, MIND partners with 337 schools in 17 states. Sixty-four of the participating schools are in Orange County including elementary schools in eight of the Commission's 13 State School Readiness matching fund projects, including Santa Ana and Anaheim. Similar to the State School Readiness program, the MIND math program is targeted to schools in the lower three deciles of California's Academic Performance Index. This criterion is also consistent with the Commission's direction to expand early literacy programs in high need communities. A summary of the Orange County Math Initiative and the participating schools is included as Attachment 3.

MIND received the 2007 Instructional Technology Innovation Award from AeA, the largest technology trade association in the United States. Awards are given to recognize local

companies, individuals and products in the technology field that drive innovation in Orange County.

California Preschool Learning Foundations – This year, the California Department of Education released the California Preschool Learning Foundations; designed to strengthen preschool education and school readiness efforts to close the achievement gap in California. The Foundations describe the knowledge and skills that young children typically would learn with appropriate support and experiences and focus on four domains: socio-emotional development, language and literacy, English-language development and mathematics. MIND has proposed a project scope to be accomplished in three phases:

- Phase I: Initial Pilot – Preliminary adaptation of kindergarten games for preschool and pilot use in three schools.
- Phase II: Development – Based on pilot results, further modification of the games, development of new games and features including a parental education component, and pilot use at 5 schools.
- Phase III: Final Development and Release – Pilot software at 20 schools, conduct final evaluation, and prepare for release of product.

Given the three phase approach, staff is recommending funding for the first phase of the project with further funding based on responsiveness of work performed during Phase I. This project will also help guide the planning of the Early Learning Center and Technology Lab proposed in conjunction with the Discovery Science Center expansion.

STRATEGIC PLAN & FISCAL SUMMARY:

The proposed action has been specifically reviewed in relation to the Strategic Plan and is consistent with the Ready to Learn goal, among others. This funding request is for the amount of \$73,400 for a four month term for Phase 1 of the project; renewable for Phase 2 and 3 based on demonstrated project accomplishments. Funding for this item is included in the FY 08/09 Budget within the Ready to Learn budget category.

PRIOR COMMISSION ACTIONS:

1. June 4, 2008 – Received report on the Innovation Network concept and MIND performance data
2. July 2, 2008 – Received Strategic Funding Plan and approved recommendations.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Adopt resolution (Attachment 2) authorizing the Executive Director or designee to prepare and negotiate Agreement PS-69 with the MIND Research Institute for the expansion of early learning investments for the Pre-Kindergarten Spatial-Temporal Math Project described in Attachment 1 for the term of January 1, 2009 – April 30, 2009 in an amount not to exceed \$73,400.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Expansion of Early Learning Investments –MIND Research Institute, Pre-Kindergarten Spatial-Temporal Math Project
2. Resolution authorizing Executive Director to negotiate Agreement PS-69 with the MIND Research Institute for the expansion of early learning investments.
3. MIND Research Institute Literacy Project – Orange County Math Initiative Locations

Contact: Alyce Mastrianni

Expansion of Early Learning Investments
MIND Research Institute
Math Literacy

Project Title	Pre-Kindergarten Spatial-Temporal Math Project (Pre-K ST Math Project)
Project Description	Design and build a Pre-K math software program and pilot curriculum with three early childhood education sites in Orange County.
Timeline	Phase I 4 months Phase II 6 months Phase III 6 months
Project Anticipated Costs	Phase I \$ 73,400 Phase II \$151,000 Phase III \$236,100 Total Project Costs = \$460,500
Project Objectives	Develop a spatial-temporal approach to teaching mathematics to improve the math proficiency and problem solving skills of pre-kindergarten children with measurements to include: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Preschool students participating in Pre-K ST Math master early childhood development foundations, as defined by the California Department of Education. 2. Preschool students participating in Pre-K ST Math exhibit fluency and proficiency in math and problem-solving skills at the end of kindergarten. 3. Preschool students participating in Pre-K ST score "Proficient" or higher on 2nd grade California Standards Test.
Criteria for Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design product responsive to the California Preschool Learning Foundations. • Garner support from participating districts to implement a preschool math strategy • Procure consultant with Early Childhood Education expertise with specialization in mathematics literacy to ensure developmentally appropriate instructional content and professional development components for preschool educators.

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES COMMISSION OF ORANGE COUNTY

RESOLUTION NO. ___-08-C&FC

November 5, 2008

A RESOLUTION OF THE CHILDREN AND FAMILIES COMMISSION OF ORANGE COUNTY DIRECTING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OR DESIGNEE TO PREPARE AND NEGOTIATE AGREEMENT NO. PS-69 WITH THE MIND RESEARCH INSTITUTE; AND MAKING CERTAIN FINDINGS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH

WHEREAS, in order to facilitate the creation and implementation of an integrated, comprehensive, and collaborative system of information and services to enhance optimal early childhood development, the legislature adopted legislation set forth in the California Children and Families Act of 1998, Health and Safety Code Section 130100, *et seq.* (as amended, the "Act") implementing the Children and Families First Initiative passed by the California electorate in November, 1998 and establishing the California Children and Families Commission and County Children and Families Commissions, including this Children and Families Commission of Orange County ("Commission"); and

WHEREAS, Commission adopted its Strategic Plan to define how funds authorized under the Act and allocated to the Commission should best be used to meet the critical needs of Orange County's children prenatal to five years of age as codified in the Act; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Director and Commission Counsel have prepared a standard Master Agreement for Services ("Master Agreement"), which was approved by the Commission; and

WHEREAS, the Commission desires to authorize the Executive Director or designee to prepare and negotiate Agreement No. PS-69 with the MIND Research Institute, in an amount not to exceed \$73,400 for the term of January 1, 2009 through April 30, 2009 to provide the expansion of early learning investments for the Pre-Kindergarten Spatial-Temporal Math Project as specified in the November 5, 2008 staff report for this Agenda Item; and

WHEREAS, Commission has reviewed the staff report relating to the Scope of Services to be provided and hereby finds and determines that the proposed Agreement is in furtherance of and consistent with the Commission's Strategic Plan; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE CHILDREN AND FAMILIES COMMISSION OF ORANGE COUNTY AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1 Commission finds and determines the foregoing Recitals are true and correct and are a substantive part of this Resolution.

Section 2 Commission hereby authorizes the Executive Director or designee to prepare and negotiate the terms, conditions and final form of Agreement PS-69 with the MIND Research Institute, in an amount not to exceed \$73,400 for the term of January 1, 2009 through April 30, 2009 to provide the expansion of early learning investments for the Pre-Kindergarten Spatial-Temporal

Math Project consistent with the November 5, 2008 staff report and scope of services referenced therein; and

Section 3 The form of Agreement PS-69 with the MIND Research Institute shall be substantially similar to the form of the standard Master Agreement, subject to minor, non-substantive revisions as reviewed and approved by the Executive Director or designee. The approval by the Executive Director of Agreement PS-69 shall be conclusively evidenced by the execution and delivery of the Agreement by the Commission Chair to the Commission Clerk.

Section 4 Commission hereby approves Agreement No. PS-69 with the MIND Research Institute to provide the expansion of early learning investments for the Pre-Kindergarten Spatial-Temporal Math Projects specified in the November 5, 2008 staff report for this Agenda Item.

Section 5 The Commission Chair and the Clerk of the Commission are hereby authorized to execute and attest, respectively, Agreement PS-69 on behalf of the Commission.

Section 6 A copy of the final Agreement PS-69 with the MIND Research Institute, when executed by the Commission Chair and attested by the Clerk of the Commission shall be appended hereto as a part of Exhibit A to this Resolution. Exhibit A is hereby fully incorporated as a part of this Resolution by this reference and made a part hereof. The final executed Agreement shall be placed on file in the office of the Clerk of the Commission.

Section 7 In addition to the authorization of Section 2 above, the Executive Director (or his designee) is hereby authorized, on behalf of the Commission, (i) to sign all documents necessary and appropriate to carry out and implement the Service Agreement, (ii) to cause the issuance of warrants, (iii) to administer the Commission's obligations, responsibilities, and duties to be performed under such agreement, and (iv) during the term thereof to provide waivers, administrative interpretations, and minor modifications of the provisions of such agreement in the furtherance thereof.

Section 8 The Clerk of the Commission shall certify to the adoption of this Resolution.

The foregoing resolution was passed and adopted by the following vote of the Children and Families Commission of Orange County on November 5, 2008 to wit:

AYES: Commissioners: _____

NOES: Commissioner(s): _____

EXCUSED: Commissioner(s): _____

ABSTAINED: Commissioner(s) _____

CHAIR

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
)
COUNTY OF ORANGE)

I, DARLENE J. BLOOM, Clerk of the Commission of Orange County, California, hereby certify that a copy of this document has been delivered to the Chair of the Commission and that the above and foregoing Resolution was duly and regularly adopted by the Children and Families Commission of Orange County.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereto set my hand and seal.

DARLENE J. BLOOM
Clerk of the Commission, Children and Families Commission of
Orange County, County of Orange, State of California

Resolution No: ___-08-C&FC

Agenda Date: November 5, 2008

Item No. ____



I certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the Resolution adopted by the

DARLENE J. BLOOM, Clerk of the Commission

By: _____
Deputy

EXHIBIT A TO RESOLUTION OF COMMISSION

(Attach copy of final executed Agreement No. PS-69 with the MIND Research Institute)



Children & Families
Commission of Orange County

MIND RESEARCH INSTITUTE MATH LITERACY PROJECT Orange County Math Initiative Locations

The Orange County Math Initiative is a community partnership to help teachers elevate student math achievement. The Initiative is specifically designed to impact math achievement, particularly in low performing schools throughout the county that are dominantly in the lower three deciles of California's Academic Performance Index.

The following is the cohort of elementary schools currently participating in the Orange County Math Initiative for 2008-2009. Up to 79 additional elementary schools are eligible to participate in the Orange County Math Initiative in 2009-2010 including schools in Anaheim, Garden Grove and Santa Ana.

Anaheim City School District

1. Abraham Lincoln Elementary
2. Benjamin Franklin Elementary
3. Betsy Ross Elementary
4. Clara Barton Elementary
5. Gauer Elementary
6. Henry Elementary
7. Horace Mann Elementary
8. James Guinn Elementary
9. Key Elementary
10. Loara Elementary
11. Madison Elementary
12. Marshall Elementary
13. Palm Lane Elementary
14. Stoddard Elementary
15. Thomas Edison Elementary
16. Westmont Elementary

Capistrano Unified School District

17. San Juan Elementary

Centralia Elementary School District

18. Danbrook Elementary

Cypress School District

19. Christine Swain Elementary

La Habra City School District

20. El Cerrito Elementary
21. Los Positas School
22. Walnut Elementary

Magnolia School District

23. Albert Schweitzer Elementary
24. Baden-Powell Elementary
25. Low Elementary
26. Maxwell Elementary
27. Pyles Elementary
28. Salk Elementary
29. Walter Elementary

Newport-Mesa Unified School District

30. College Park Elementary

Orange Unified School District

31. Prospect Elementary

Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District

32. Melrose Elementary
33. Rio Vista Elementary
34. Ruby Drive Elementary
35. Topaz Elementary

(continued on next page)

Santa Ana Unified School District

36. Adams Elementary
37. Carver Elementary
38. Davis Elementary
39. Diamond Elementary
40. Edison Elementary
41. El Sol Academy
42. Esqueda Elementary
43. Garfield Elementary
44. Franklin Elementary
45. Fremont Elementary
46. Harvey Elementary
47. Heninger Elementary
48. Hoover Elementary
49. Andrew Jackson Elementary
50. Kennedy Elementary
51. King Elementary
52. Lathrop Technology Magnet School
53. Lowell Elementary
54. Martin Elementary
55. Monte Vista Elementary
56. Pio Pico Elementary
57. Romero-Cruz Elementary
58. Roosevelt Elementary
59. Sepulveda Elementary
60. Taft Elementary
61. Walker Elementary
62. Washington Elementary
63. Wilson Elementary

Westminster School District

64. Finley Elementary
65. Meairs Elementary
66. Schmitt Elementary
67. Willmore Elementary