



MEMORANDUM

TO: Milwaukee Board of School Directors
FROM: Joandy Williams, Early Childhood Learning Manager
CC: Dr. Jeremiah Holiday, Interim Chief Academic Officer
Clarissa Ramos, Head Start Program Supervisor
RE: MPS Head Start Grant Simplification Application
DATE: May 4, 2020

The Milwaukee Public Schools Head Start Program is seeking approval to consolidate the federal and county Head Start grants totaling \$10.6 million. MPS is projected to serve over 1,500 students in 27 federal and 8 county sites of which three-year-old, half-and full-day programming is provided.

Through the Information Memorandum (IM) shared by Administration of Children and Families and conversations with Office of Head Start, Region V Program Specialist, John Tschoe, we learned that the consolidation of the grants is allowable under Head Start Performance Standards beginning in fiscal year (FY) 2020.

The following table reflects the annual funding and enrollment levels for each grant.

Period of Funding: 06/01/2020 - 05/31/2021

Grant	05CH010537	05CH011018
Funded Enrollment	1370	136
Program Operations	\$8,869,894	\$1,562,405
T/TA	\$104,290	\$17,318
Total	\$8,974,184	\$1,579,723

The consolidation of the grants will allow MPS to do the following:

- streamline administrative requirements and removing duplicative efforts
- track cost allocation over multiple Head Start grants with different funding cycles
- reduce reporting and budget revisions and amendments by grant, and auditing of multiple grants with different cycles
- opportunity to plan and operate multiple Head Start programs more efficiently and cohesively



- support the programs more holistically
- preparing one grant application reflecting all needs, goals, services, and options
- submit one annual Program Information Reporting (PIR)
- spend less time on internally tracking staff time by grant and flexibility for staff to work as needed or benefit from technical assistance funding

After discussion with John Tschoe, Region V Program Specialist, and reviewing the Information Memorandum shared by the Administration of Children and Families, it was encouraged that we consolidate the grants of the Head Start Program. Specifically, in order to request a consolidation both an “intent to apply” must be completed and approval from:

1. Head Start Policy Council
2. Milwaukee Public Schools Board of Directors

MPS is committed to a standard of care. The approval to consolidate the federal and county Head Start grants will allow the program to plan and operate multiple programs more efficiently and cohesively. Thus, it will provide higher quality and continuity of care for the children and families of the Head Start program.

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Attachments