

SOUTH PASADENA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Office of the Superintendent
Dr. Geoff Yantz, Superintendent of Schools



M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Members of the Board of Education

FROM: Dr. Geoff Yantz, Superintendent

DATE: December 13, 2016

SUBJECT: Elimination of the District Preschool Program for the 2017-2018 School Year

Background

Over the past two years, the District has conducted a cost-benefit analysis of the District's fee-based preschool program. The program budget operates with a significant deficit. The current fees are competitive for the area, and as such, increasing the fees would not be a reasonable option. In addition, enrollment has been steadily declining below each site's capacity of 15 students. On-going challenges also include recruiting and retaining highly-qualified preschool teachers and instructional aides. In addition, the Transitional Kindergarten program which serves all three elementary schools has lessened the demand for the preschool program.

Discussion

While preschool teachers and aides are not certificated staff and do not require notification by March 15, it is important for the decision to be made at this time to minimize impact on affected employees and allow appropriate notice to parents of three-year-old children enrolled in the program. The affected classified employees will be offered positions within the District for which they are qualified to fill.

Recommendation

Dr. Geoff Yantz, Superintendent, recommends that the Board of Education approve the elimination of the District Preschool Program for the 2017-2018 school year.