NEW ORLEANS EARLY EDUCATION NETWORK (NOEEN) COORDINATED ENROLLMENT & COORDINATED FUNDING REQUEST SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING

April 21, 2023

NOEEN | NEW ORLEANS EARLY EDUCATION NETWORK

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL

AGENDA

I. Call to Order
II. Roll Call
III. Coordinated Enrollment & Coordinated Funding Request Allocations & Priorities
    - Vote: Allocations
    - Vote: Future Allocation Priorities
IV. Enrollment Updates
V. Adjournment

III. COORDINATED ENROLLMENT & COORDINATED FUNDING REQUEST ALLOCATIONS & PRIORITIES

TODAY'S OBJECTIVES

The Coordinated Enrollment and Coordinated Funding Request Subcommittee will discuss:

- Allocating 54 additional one-time B-3 bridge funding seats and
- Determine allocation priorities to apply to
  - B-3 bridge funds and
  - Anticipated state-match funds.

These allocation priorities will be executed by Agenda for Children and NOLA-PS to efficiently and effectively manage publicly seats to meet the needs of students and families in real time.

2023-24 CITY SEATS FUNDING (21 SEATS)

As a reminder:

- The NOEEN Steering Committee voted to retain 21 seats in its initial January allocation to support continuity of care as needs arise from student enrollment for the remainder of the 2022-2023 SY.
- Some seats will be needed to address possible over-enrollment during the match for students with a guarantee (ex. twins).

We will continue to ‘hold’ these seats for any instances of enrolling over program targets that could happen during the match as it is difficult to know actual numbers until we have a match run to check. We project an initial match run to occur the week of April 24.

B-3 BRIDGE FUNDING (54 SEATS)

LDOE is allocating $724,440.50 in one-time B-3 bridge funding to the Orleans Parish Ready Start Network to support the phase out of B-3 seats when they end on June 30, 2023.

- $648,000 will fund 54 one-time, year-long seats for eligible three year olds since this age group will age out at the end of the next program year.
- To comply with the state expense deadline of December 31, 2023, Agenda for Children will disburse monthly payments of $1,000 per child for July-December 2023 and a one-time payment of $6,000 in December 2023 as a pre-payment for Spring 2024.
- Agenda for Children will retain a 10% administrative fee for program oversight and wraparound service delivery at a cost of $76,440.50.

B-3 BRIDGE FUNDING (54 SEATS)

- One-time provisional funding to programs to ensure continuity of care for 2 out-of-parish children for one year using B-3 bridge funding. After one year, the children would have to enroll elsewhere. Parents were given the option to enroll in a program in their home parish or to remain in their current program in Orleans Parish for one year with the understanding that they would not be eligible for public-funding without proof of Orleans Parish residency the following year.
- After adjusting for children aging out and verifying residency, there were two children who live out of parish that we recommend for one-time funding utilizing B-3 bridge funding:
    - Trinity Learning Academy = 1
    - John Hoffman Early Learning Center = 1
- These children are allocated seats already through the January City Seats allocation, but are ineligible for that funding stream so they need to be funded through bridge funding.

STATE MATCH

- We will not know the potential number of seats funded through the state match until the June 13 and 14 BESE meetings.
- We would like to determine allocation priorities for City Seats, B-3 Bridge Funding, and the anticipated State Match so we can allocate seats based on priorities and fill them from waitlists as soon as possible, with the goal of filling seats by July 1 (pending State Match results).

RECOMMENDED ADJUSTMENTS:

Difference between 22-23 allocations and 23-24 requests = 24 SEATS

Difference Between 22-23 Seat Allocations and 23-24 Request
There were a handful of providers who requested fewer seats for the 23-24 school year than they currently have for this year.

These programs reached out to Agenda to request their allocations for the 23-24 school year be equal to their current year's allocations.

The programs and additional seats needed are illustrated in the blue box.

Sites and # of Additional Seats Requested to ensure 23-24 allocations match 22-23 allocations

- Cuddly Bear = 11 more
- Little Steps = 9 more
- Wilcox Too = 2 more
- Toddler's University = 2 more

Total = 24

RECOMMENDED ADJUSTMENTS: ADJUSTING FOR 8 SEAT MINIMUM = 22 SEATS

Adjusting for 8 Seat Minimum
Based on Steering Committee and provider feedback about ensuring financial viability for new classrooms, we recommend allocating any site that received fewer than 8 seats a minimum of 8 seats or their full request, whichever is less.

There were a handful of providers who were allocated fewer than 8 seats. The programs and number of additional seats needed is illustrated in the blue box.

Additional Seats to Meet 8 Seat Minimum or Request (whichever is fewer)

- Children's College of Academics = 4 more
- D&J's Early Learning Center = 4 more
- Gilda's Preschool Academy = 3 more
- LSU Early Learning Center = 5 more
- Young and Beautifull Preschool 2 = 1 more
- The NEST: East = 5 more

Total = 22

RECOMMENDATION ADJUSTMENTS

21 City Seats
+ 54 One-Time B-3 Funding
= 75 Seats

- 2 Out-of-Parish Children
- 24 Seat Discrepancies
- 22 Adjusting for 8 Seat Minimum
= 27 Seats Remaining

VOTE ON ALLOCATIONS

- Motion is to approve the recommended allocations for 24 seats to adjust for programs that requested fewer seats for 23-24 than they currently have this year and allocate 22 seats to adjust for 8 Seat Minimum.
  - Discussion
  - Public Comment
  - Vote

FUTURE ALLOCATION PRIORITIES

For the remaining 27 seats and future State Match funded seats, we recommend granting seat management authority to Agenda and NOLA-PS to make recommended allocations utilizing the Subcommittee approved allocation priorities. Final allocations will be determined and voted on by this Subcommittee.

This Subcommittee should determine allocation priorities and the order in which they will be applied.

- ➔ Meet total CFR ask, some programs requested more seats than they were allocated because we had limited number of seats to be allocated in January. Can we do this for all? Do we need to cap # of seats? Based on site applicant demand (in increments of 4, 8, etc.)?
- ➔ Prioritize specific age? Based on applicant data? Based on total number by age across the system?
- ➔ Non-licensed sites getting their license later in the year.
- ➔ Site performance score (high proficient or excellent?) or CFR evaluation score?
- ➔ Underserved geographies?
- ➔ Other Ideas?

VOTE ON ALLOCATION PRIORITIES

- Motion is to approve the proposed allocation priorities which will be executed by Agenda for Children and NOLA-PS to efficiently and effectively manage seat allocations to meet the needs of students and families in real time.
    - Discussion
    - Public Comment
    - Vote

IV. ENROLLMENT UPDATES

WAITLIST UPDATES

NOLA-PS launched a new EC application in a new system, Avela, and is working to connect this system to a new, updated version of Salesforce.

The EC application holds 8 choices for families to rank and this number needs to align with the number of waitlist choices a family can indicate on their application because there is only one application and these numbers need to be the same.

If a family matches to one of their choices they will only be on the waitlist for their higher ranked choices.
(Ex. family matches to 3rd choice, family is on WLs for choices 1 & 2; family matches to their first choice and is not on any WLs)

If a family does not match they will be waitlisted for all the choices they ranked on their application.
(Ex. family ranked 5 programs and did not match to any, family is on 5 WLs)

WAITLIST UPDATES

The previous year's process was to only allow families to be on one waitlist if they were matched to a seat and on up to 3 waitlists if they did not receive a match.

Families have fewer chances to get any seat if they are unmatched and fewer chances to get into a preferred program than they received in the match.
(ex. Participation in the match gives a family up to 8 chances to get a seat, not participating in the match would only give them 3 changes)

Accurate waitlist data is also necessary for the District to advocate for additional funds from the State. This critical data would support a request to add more seats to the city when we have the opportunity to request additional funds around 10/1.

Does anyone see any potential issues with this change?

V. ADJOURNMENT