

December 5, 2017, Regular Board Meeting

Title

2. ACCEPTANCE OF THE GEAR UP GRANT FUNDS 2017-2024 AND APPROVAL OF THE CONTRACTS TO PROVIDE SERVICES FOR 2017-2018

Recommendation

That the Duval County School Board confirm acceptance of a "GEAR UP" (Gaining Early Awareness for Undergraduate Programs) grant award from the U.S. Department of Education in an amount of \$12,752,044 in Federal funds over a seven-year period. The total budgeted amount for the project including Federal, partnership, and Duval County School Board match commitments is \$25,508,878.

That Duval County School Board approve expenditures as indicated in the grant proposal, and approve the following items required to implement the proposal in full.

That the Duval County School Board authorize the Chair or Vice-Chair, and Superintendent to execute the following agreements using grant funds with grant partners as identified in the original application contingent on form approval by the Office of General Counsel.

- **I'm A Star Foundation, not to exceed \$244,000**
- **University of North Florida, not to exceed \$249,400**
- **FSCJ, not to exceed \$131,036**
- **Communities in Schools, not to exceed \$429,927**

Description

Although our district has made great strides in increasing the overall graduation and postsecondary success rates, persistent pockets of below average educational achievement and attainment remain in too many of our schools. Our GEAR UP project will significantly increase the number of students who graduate high school prepared to enter and succeed in postsecondary education. Funds are restricted to serve a cohort of 2,800 students in the seventh grade who attend 10 schools which serve the most under resourced and disadvantaged populations in our district. This program will follow this cohort through high school and into their first year of college.

The selected middle schools to participate in this project are:

- Arlington
- Matthew W. Gilbert
- Northwestern
- Southside
- Jean Ribault
- Jefferson Davis

- J.E.B. Stuart
- Highlands
- Alfred DuPont
- Lake Shore

The selected high schools are fed into by the selected middle Schools:

- Englewood
- Edward White
- Andrew Jackson
- William M. Raines
- Terry Parker
- Westside
- Jean Ribault

Project activities:

The three over-arching goals of the project are to:

- 1) Increase academic performance and preparation for postsecondary education;
- 2) Increase the rate of high school graduation and enrollment in postsecondary education for GEAR UP students; and
- 3) Increase students' and their families' knowledge of postsecondary education options, preparation, and financing.

The project will provide inputs in five key areas:

- 1) Rigorous Coursework,
- 2) Supportive Services,
- 3) Intensive Mentoring,
- 4) College-Going Culture, and
- 5) Family Engagement.

Activities will include opportunities to participate in a rigorous, challenging curriculum through advanced classes, summer enrichment, and development of an Individual Postsecondary Plan; supportive social and academic services such as tutoring, case management, summer school opportunities, ACT, SAT, and AP preparation, summer bridge programs, and 7th year support; mentoring through near peers, community service projects, and cultural events; development of a college-going culture through campus tours, guidance and counseling, career exploration, scholarships, and financial aid sessions; and family engagement through financial literacy sessions, wisdom exchanges, and campus tours.

The project runs annually from September 26 through September 25 the following year, for seven grant years beginning in 2017.

Project funds will be used to employ a Project Director, a Project Supervisor, two Instructional Specialists, a Counselor, four Teachers, Academic Tutors. All positions will be terminated at the end of the project period.

Additionally, DCPS will bring at a future date a request to approve an agreement for an independent evaluation firm through a competitive procurement process in an amount not to exceed \$203,454 in year 1 of the grant, contingent on form approval by the Office of General Counsel.

Community partners:

University of North Florida, Florida State College at Jacksonville, Communities In Schools of Jacksonville, and I'm A Star Foundation provide the following services and match commitments: UNF: \$1,155,703 in grant funded commitments, \$561,481 match commitment

- a. School Counseling Program offers Supporters of Academic Rigor (SOAR) program
- b. College and career readiness activities
- c. Graduate students to serve as mentors and college/career advisors
- d. Instant Decision Day: Colleges review transcripts and meet candidates, and provide on-site scholarships and admission
- e. Family supports: Family Wisdom Exchanges, Caregiver Corps
- f. Summer melt and digital storytelling mentoring

Communities in Schools: \$2,842,452 in grant funded commitments, \$4,645,500 match commitment

- a. Site coordinators
- b. Supportive case management services: behavior referrals, home visits, parent contact, case management
- c. 3 hours daily academic enrichment and 5 weeks summer camp for 7-8th grades
- d. Support for IPP and college portfolio
- e. Additional academic supports

FSCJ: \$901,126 in grant funded commitments, \$207,760 match commitment

- a. College readiness activities
- b. STEAM summer programs
- c. Career exploration, assessments, guidance, and counseling
- d. Career Fair
- e. Additional experiential and cultural activities

I'm A Star Foundation: \$1,708,000 in grant funded commitments, \$1,710,240 match commitment

- a. Program manager, site coordinators, and coaches for low proficiency students
 - b. Mentoring, bi-monthly family empowerment forums, and service learning plans
 - c. Student Success Sessions
 - d. Weekly one-on-one mentors
 - e. Annual scholarship event
 - f. Additional supportive activities
- Contracts with community partners will be renewed annually over the seven-year grant period.

Gap Analysis

While DCPS has increased graduation and postsecondary enrollment, pockets of below

average achievement, postsecondary attainment, and differences in attainment by subgroup plague our community. The lack of educational attainment in our community has a negative impact on economic prosperity and is directly linked to attainment levels. Just 58% of DCPS graduates transition into postsecondary programs the fall following their high school graduation.

Targeted schools were identified based on performance in the following areas:

1. The school's overall academic performance on the state-standardized tests;
2. The number of students performing in the lowest quartile on these standardized tests;
3. Achievement gaps between student subgroups;
4. The school's Title I status;
5. Overall school grade (A-F) assigned by the Florida Department of Education based on state standardized tests; and
6. The number of students receiving free/reduced-price lunch.

A needs assessment identified the following gaps in these target schools: Lack of Academic Achievement with students well below statewide assessments in these schools; Lack of Academic Rigor, with fewer students participating in advanced courses; Low Postsecondary Enrollment; Lack of Postsecondary Readiness with target students 10 percentage points lower than the district average in college readiness.

Our GEAR UP project addresses these gaps and will serve the most disadvantaged populations in our lowest performing schools, significantly increasing the number of students who graduate, enter, and succeed in postsecondary education.

Previous Outcomes

Duval Schools was awarded a GEAR UP grant that previously began with 7th graders in the 2008/09 school year, who graduated high school in 2013/14. The cohort is now in their college years receiving scholarships, with the majority scheduled to graduate starting next year. The following are outcomes from the previous GEAR UP grant:

GEAR UP 2008 Program Outcomes

Participating high schools:	Raines Ribault Jackson
Number of students graduating from high school:	341
Students accepted into post-secondary education:	139 (41% of graduating class)
Scholarship recipients:	75 received scholarship funding; of those 48 students received GEAR UP funding
Average amount of scholarship funding per student:	\$10,075 awarded per student
Total number of scholarship funds:	\$483,600 in scholarships awarded so far
Colleges attended by GEAR UP program	o Bethune-Cookman University

graduates:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Florida A&M University o Florida International University o Florida Memorial University o Florida State College Jacksonville o Florida State University o Jacksonville University o Morehouse College o Morgan State University o New College o North Carolina Wesleyan College o Prince George's Community College o Santa Fe College o Spelman College o University of Central Florida o University of Florida o University of North Florida o University of West Florida
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Expected Outcomes

The expected program outcomes are outlined in the following logic model:

Goal: To empower low-income students to attain a high school diploma and achieve postsecondary success through integrated non-cognitive and academic strategies (rigorous courses, support services, mentoring, college-going culture, family engagement)		
Outputs	Short-term outcomes	Mid-term outcomes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Number & percentage of students...promoted on time each grade level; on track to graduate; with two years of math beyond Algebra I; placing in college level math and English without remediation; with improved non-cognitive skills and actively utilizing services; average daily school attendance; with mentoring matches; with participation frequency; taking SAT/ACT by Grade 11; who self-report "good fit" for college choice; who complete FAFSA; enrolled and on track to graduate college *Number and percentage of families...attending financial literacy courses, wisdom exchanges, tours *Increased rigorous course enrollment in high school; *Improved student grades and attendance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Increased rigorous course enrollment in high school; *Improved student grades and attendance; *Consistent student participation in mentoring, tutoring, and supportive services; *Enhanced student non-cognitive skills; *Broadened student educational and career aspirations; *Improved family immersion in student academics and activities; *Increased student and family awareness of financial aid and postsecondary options 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Increased rigorous course enrollment in high school; ; *Improvements in teacher expectations and capabilities to provide challenging curricula; * Improvements in high school graduation rate; *Rises in SAT and ACT completion; *Increase in FAFSA completion and scholarships received; *Increase in postsecondary enrollment; *Enter college ready at postsecondary level

Strategic Plan Goal

Develop the Whole Child
Engage Parents, Caregivers, and the Community

Financial Impact

If the proposal is funded at the level requested, DCPS will receive \$12,752,044 in Federal Funds to use over a seven year period to support student achievement within the project's target schools. Project funds will be used to employ a Project Director, a Project Supervisor, two Instructional Specialists, a Counselor, four Teachers, Academic Tutors. All positions will be terminated at the end of the project period. Duval County is pledging \$5,631,853 in existing matching staffing over the 7-year period.

The amounts per budget period are as follows:

Budget period 1:\$2,141,626

Budget period 2:\$2,141,626

Budget period 3:\$1,773,850

Budget period 4:\$1,773,767

Budget period 5:\$1,804,559

Budget period 6:\$1,811,941

Budget period 7:\$1,304,675

University of North Florida Subaward Agreement

RC: Multiple (costed to schools): 3213, 3146, 3155, 3211, 3212, 3216, 3207, 3244, 3066, 3069

Fund: To be established for GEAR UP

Function: 6100

Object: 311 for the first \$25,000 and 312 for the remaining balance

Florida State College Jacksonville Subaward Agreement

RC: Multiple (costed to schools): 3213, 3146, 3155, 3211, 3212, 3216, 3207, 3244, 3066, 3069

Fund: To be established for GEAR UP

Function: 6100

Object: 311 for the first \$25,000 and 312 for the remaining balance

Communities in Schools Subaward Agreement

RC: Multiple (costed to schools): 3213, 3146, 3155, 3211, 3212, 3216, 3207, 3244, 3066, 3069

Fund: To be established for GEAR UP

Function: 6100

Object: 311 for the first \$25,000 and 312 for the remaining balance

I'm A Star Foundation Subaward Agreement

RC: Multiple (costed to schools): 3213, 3146, 3155, 3211, 3212, 3216, 3207, 3244, 3066, 3069

Fund: To be established for GEAR UP

Function: 6100

Object: 311 for the first \$25,000 and 312 for the remaining balance

Contact

Victoria Schultz, Chief of Schools, 904-390-2128

Raijah Hayes, Supervisor, Grants, 904-390-2973

Attachments

1. GEAR UP 7-year Budget

GEAR UP FUNDING 2017-2024									
	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24		
	7th grade	8th grade	9th grade	10th grade	11th grade	12th grade	Freshman		
	YEAR 1	YEAR 2	YEAR 3	YEAR 4	YEAR 5	YEAR 6	YEAR 7	TOTAL	
DCPS Federal	\$ 1,087,263	\$ 1,083,637	\$ 857,775	\$ 834,843	\$ 864,598	\$ 855,065	\$ 561,582	\$ 6,144,763	
UNF Federal	\$ 249,400	\$ 240,597	\$ 158,015	\$ 170,082	\$ 162,608	\$ 175,001	\$ -	\$ 1,155,703	
FSCJ Federal	\$ 131,036	\$ 135,225	\$ 137,205	\$ 139,243	\$ 138,750	\$ 134,001	\$ 85,666	\$ 901,126	
CIS Federal	\$ 429,927	\$ 438,167	\$ 376,855	\$ 385,599	\$ 394,603	\$ 403,874	\$ 413,427	\$ 2,842,452	
IAS Federal	\$ 244,000	\$ 244,000	\$ 244,000	\$ 244,000	\$ 244,000	\$ 244,000	\$ 244,000	\$ 1,708,000	
TOTAL FEDERAL	\$ 2,244,172	\$ 2,039,080	\$ 1,773,850	\$ 1,773,767	\$ 1,804,559	\$ 1,811,941	\$ 1,304,675	\$ 12,752,044	
DCPS match commitment	\$ 314,038	\$ 494,698	\$ 676,063	\$ 680,045	\$ 684,088	\$ 2,688,322	\$ 94,599	\$ 5,631,853	
UNF match commitment	\$ 92,880	\$ 97,725	\$ 83,192	\$ 83,192	\$ 83,192	\$ 121,300	\$ -	\$ 561,481	
FSCJ match commitment	\$ 30,211	\$ 31,177	\$ 31,633	\$ 32,103	\$ 31,990	\$ 30,895	\$ 19,751	\$ 207,760	
CIS match commitment	\$ 2,322,750	\$ 2,322,750	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,645,500	
IAS match commitment	\$ 244,320	\$ 244,320	\$ 244,320	\$ 244,320	\$ 244,320	\$ 244,320	\$ 244,320	\$ 1,710,240	
TOTAL NON-FEDERAL	\$ 3,004,199	\$ 3,190,670	\$ 1,035,208	\$ 1,039,660	\$ 1,043,590	\$ 3,084,837	\$ 358,670	\$ 12,756,834	
TOTAL PROGRAM FUNDING	\$ 5,248,371	\$ 5,229,750	\$ 2,809,058	\$ 2,813,427	\$ 2,848,149	\$ 4,896,778	\$ 1,663,345	\$ 25,508,878	