

ELO Working Group

DRAFT- Task List

July 29, 2015

Drafted by: H. Morehouse

Task List

- 1) Create pithy message from last year's work
 - Quality ELO's keep kids safe, inspire learners, help working families, and support Vermont's vision for education
- 2) Clarify what is meant by structured programs
 - Program that serves students on a regular basis outside the regular school day/year (e.g., afterschool, summer, weekends, vacation weeks, etc.)
 - Can be run by a school, district, or SU or by a community organization, nonprofit, or licensed childcare center
- 3) ADDED- Outline what the money can be used for (recognizing that limited funds will force a prioritization among allowable uses)
 - Increasing participation in an existing program (especially for students who qualify for free or reduced price lunch)
 - Starting a new ELO program
 - Making quality improvements to an existing program
 - Providing transportation for students to a program when the program is located offsite from the school
 - Sustaining an existing program, such as one receiving 21st CCLC funding or other grant funds
- 4) Identify target populations/program types if there are any
 - Children who qualify as low-income
 - Parts of the state with little or no programming available
- 5) Define expected outcomes for those receiving funds
- 6) Define quality (refer to Afterschool Alliance's eight areas)
 - School-Community Partnerships
 - Engaged Learning
 - Family Engagement
 - Intentional Programming
 - Diverse, Prepared Staff
 - Participation and Access
 - Safety, Health and Wellness
 - Ongoing Assessment and Improvement
- 7) Decide where committee lives; what is the relationship between the committee and the AOE?

- 8) Outline the basics of what it looks like going forward into the future with a mix of public-private support
- 9) Solicit seed money to get the fund started
- 10) Define how much needs to be raised to meet yearly targets for granting.
Examples:
 - \$3.5 million/year would provide \$50,000/year for every school that has at least 40% free or reduced priced lunch rate at a minimum level of programming
 - \$5million/year would create full afterschool and summer programs in all communities with at least 60% free or reduced priced lunch rates at a comprehensive level of programming (15hrs/week during the school year and six weeks, full-day in the summer)
- 11) Create a report for AOE Secretary (with sufficient time for her review/discussion before the November 15th deadline)

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Working Notes

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Feedback To-Date from Meetings with Potential Donors

- A number of private foundations and philanthropists are already supporting afterschool and summer learning programs. Will we be competing with local programs for funders?
- Foundations can often only give grants to 501c3's and businesses/private donors may want the tax deduction
- Many private foundations and businesses prefer to give locally
- Some feel that if the state truly sees this as a priority then the state should fund; may be difficult to get private funding without state commitment as well
- Some push back that the state may not award funds the way that donors would like. Having a transparent process and broader review committee would be important.
- Consider using the common application and evaluation measures and keep it simple (e.g., United Way). Think streamlined. Some existing processes (e.g., 21st CCLC) are very complicated and time consuming.
- Have to consider the long term sustainability of funding sources. If we get a big, out-of-state or in-state grant/contribution, will it be sustainable over time?
- In order to be successful, programs need stable funding and stable leadership

Recent Examples of Blending of State and Private Funding

Neil Young donated \$100,000 to the Food Fight Fund (for the GMO labeling lawsuit):

<http://ecowatch.com/2015/07/21/neil-young-gmo-vermont/>

Article about public-private funding for early ed:

<http://archive.burlingtonfreepress.com/article/20130710/NEWS07/307100022/Public-private-funding-expands-Vermont-pre-K-offerings>

The \$400,000 in state money, paired with \$400,000 raised privately by the Vermont Community Preschool Collaborative, will go to the 12 communities that applied for funding, said Eddie Gale, of the A.D. Henderson Foundation, which helps fund the collaborative. Gale said the foundation has helped add 2,000 preschool slots since 2005.

Permanent Fund gave \$750k to Let's Grow Kids:

<http://www.permanentfund.org/the-permanent-fund-announces-2015-grants-for-child-focused-initiatives/>

Info about the funds from Vermont Yankee that are being administered by ACCD for Windham County Economic Development:

<http://accd.vermont.gov/business/WCGP>

Related Example of Similar Fund and Structure

The Working Lands Enterprise initiative (<http://workinglands.vermont.gov/>), Act 142, created the Working Lands Enterprise Fund (WLEF) and the Working Lands Enterprise Board (WLEB). The WLEB is made up of private sector members throughout the supply chains of agriculture and forestry, the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Vermont Department of Forests, Parks & Recreation, Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development, Vermont Housing Conservation Board, Vermont Economic Development Authority, and Vermont Sustainable Jobs Fund.

(<http://www.leg.state.vt.us/docs/2012/Acts/ACT142.pdf>)

Some of the goals of the Working Lands initiative, as outlined in the Findings section of Act 142, are to:

- Stimulate a concerted economic development effort on behalf of Vermont's agriculture and forest product sectors by systematically advancing entrepreneurship, business development, and job creation;
- Increase the value of Vermont's raw and value-added products through the development of in-state and export markets;
- Attract a new generation of entrepreneurs to Vermont's farm, food system, forest, and value-added chain by facilitating more affordable access to the working landscape; and
- Increase the amount of state investment in working lands enterprises, particularly when it leverages private and philanthropic funds.

The Working Lands Enterprise Fund demonstrates the state's investment in the working lands enterprise economy. The fund is directed by the WLEB and is administered by the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food & Markets in cooperation with the Vermont Department of Forests, Parks & Recreation and the Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development. The three funding categories (below) are identified by the Vermont legislature in Act 142 and defined by the WLEB. The amount of funds in each category will be determined by the WLEB based on the response and need from applicants.