

Madison Family Literacy/Even Start Literacy Program

Add \$60,000 in expenditures to Fund 80 to contribute to the continuation of the Madison Family Literacy/Even Start Literacy program at Lakeview/Northport contingent on the coordinator of the program submitting an acceptable plan to the administration for the implementation of the program prior to June 30, 2008.

Increase the Fund 80 tax levy by \$60,000

Ms. Passman's justification is the following:

- a) This is a federal program that is up for reauthorization this year and is being held up in Congress until after the elections in hopes of having it reauthorized. This would be one time emergency funding until Congress reauthorizes it.
- b) This program has four components-adult education, home visitation, early childhood education, along with a Family and Children together component.
- c) Patti La Crosse has \$10,000 in pledges and has worked hard to get as much individual support as she can to keep this program going.

It puts all the components of education into the family and not just the child. This program represents everything that we need for early intervention and has an outstanding reputation.

Submitted by: Marj Passman

Analysis

The Even Start program has been effective and a valuable support to the districts pre-school children and their parents. The program serves approximately 40 students at each of its two sites. One program has been located in the Northeast and operates as the Lakeview/Northport. The second program operates in the South part fo the district at Allied Drive/Leopold School.

The Allied Drive/Leopold site has been operated by Dane County Parent Council (Headstart) in collaboration with MMSD. The district has served as the fiscal agent for the grant.

All of the funds provided for the Madison Family Literacy/Even Start Literacy Program through the grant will be expended by June 30, 2008. The grant has not been renewed at this time. The plan currently is for both the Lakeview/Northport and Allied Drive/Leopold sites to cease operation at the end of the school year.

Patti LaCross, current coordinator of the program at Lakeview/Northport, has submitted a request for \$60,000 to partially fund two teachers and a coordinator to continue the early

childhood programs at the Northport Drive site. The program would provide pre-school for 3-5 year olds.

The administration questions the viability of the program with the limited funds provided. The limited funding places the burden for the continuation of the program the program staff's ability to raise additional funds. There is a further concern about providing programming to one site and not the other.



ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT - ELEMENTARY

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Susan Abplanalp, Assistant Superintendent for Elementary Schools

Art Rainwater, Superintendent

May 7, 2008

TO: Board of Education
FROM: Sue Abplanalp, Assistant Superintendent - Elementary
RE: Even Start Grant

The Madison Metropolitan School District is the fiscal agent for the Even Start Grant. This is the last year of funding for the grant.

During the 2007-08 school year, the budget for the Even Start Grant has been distributed as follows:

- Lake View / Northport: \$122,054
- Leopold / Allied: \$127,355

Both programs serve approximately 40 families each year.