

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**



ITEM: 3.5
(ID # 13191)

MEETING DATE:
Tuesday, August 04, 2020

FROM: SUPERVISOR V. MANUEL PEREZ:

SUBJECT: SUPERVISOR V. MANUEL PEREZ: Allocation of CARES Funding to the Riverside County Office of Education to Support the All for One Campaign. All Districts [\$10,000,000; 100% Federal CARES Act Funds].

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Find that the project is exempt from California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3);
2. Authorize the allocation of \$10,000,000 in federal funding under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (Section 5001, Public Law 116-136; CARES Act) to the Riverside County Office of Education to support the All for One campaign which will provide computer devices and hotspots to students countywide to facilitate access to online learning and educational support services; and
3. Authorize the Director of Housing, Homeless Prevention and Workforce Solutions (HHPWS), or designee, to execute the finalized Agreement, subject to County Counsel approval, and execute any and all related agreements and documents necessary to implement and administer the Project, including but not limited to non-substantive amendments, subject to County Counsel approval.

ACTION: Consent


Supervisor V. Manuel Perez, Chairman 7/30/2020

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

On motion of Supervisor Perez, seconded by Supervisor Washington and duly carried by unanimous vote, IT WAS ORDERED that the above matter is approved as recommended.

Ayes: Jeffries, Spiegel, Washington, Perez and Hewitt
Nays: None
Absent: None
Date: August 4, 2020
xc: Supvr. Perez, HHPWS

Kecia R. Harper
Clerk of the Board

By: 
Deputy

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BACKGROUND:

On July 17th, Governor Newsom announced new statewide rules that will shift most California public schools to full time distance learning to curb the spread of COVID-19. California currently has 10,500 schools operating statewide which serve over 6.1 million students. Riverside County is home to 431,521 of these students which are served by the county's 23 school districts.

These new guidelines will require Riverside County schools, administrators, teachers, parents and students to rapidly adapt to a full-time distance learning format. Distance learning can present significant challenges to low-income students and may disproportionately affect students of color, students with disabilities and those living in rural areas. These challenges, known more commonly as the "digital divide" are being exacerbated during the time of COVID. Simply put, some families have the means to succeed in a remote learning environment, and others do not.

Specific examples of the digital divide affecting students in Riverside County include:

- Large families with multiple students who only have one computer at home for everyone to share;
- In one district, less than 80% of the district's geographic area is covered with traditional Internet services;
- Teachers struggling to connect with students who have unreliable Internet service and/or older computer devices that pose challenges to connecting to daily online learning formats; and
- Students and parents with limited computer skills and knowledge that must quickly acclimate to the world of online learning.

The Riverside County Office of Education (RCOE) is aiming to bridge our local digital divide with the launch of "All for One", a campaign centered on raising funds to provide computers, tablets, and mobile hotspot devices to students and families to ensure that no student is left behind in this rapid shift to online learning. If successful, the All for One campaign will go beyond facilitating distance learning and will serve as a critical link for digital inclusion.

As of July, RCOE, estimates that 84,855 computer devices at an approximate cost of \$29.6 million and 44,730 hotspots at a cost of approximately \$6 million are needed to effectively deliver full-time online learning to students countywide. The Office of Education is working with each school district to meet this need which exceeds current budget capacity. The All for One campaign is designed to leverage other public funding, private funding and support from the community at large to ensure that all students have the basic tools to learn at home.

The Riverside County Office of Education (RCOE) provides specific educational, financial, legislative, and leadership services and support to all K-12 school districts in Riverside County. As an organization, it is comprised of the elected Riverside County Superintendent of Schools

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and the array of individuals employed by the County Superintendent to help fulfill their statutory duties and responsibilities. A seven member elected County Board of Education is affiliated with the RCOE. The primary work of the RCOE is divided into the following three areas: 1) providing overarching educational goals, support and services leading to high school graduation, college readiness, and career preparedness of all county students enrolled in public education; 2) providing financial oversight and support of the school districts in the county to ensure fiscal solvency and compliance with statutes; and 3) providing credential oversight and support to ensure all teachers in the county are properly authorized for the subject area(s) they are assigned to teach. With the advent of the pandemic, RCOE has taken a leadership and advocacy role to ensure the safety of all students and the continuity of educational services and supports. Additional information on the All of Campaign can be found online at www.rcoe.us/foundation/all-for-one/.

The County through its Housing, Homeless Prevention and Workforce Solutions Department (HHPWS) is tasked with working collaboratively with community partners to deliver a highly skilled and educated local workforce which meets the demands of the 21st Century. The K-12 education system is a critical partner in this effort as it prepares students for college and for job opportunities following graduation. The proposed funding allocation aligns with the County's overarching workforce objectives and supports the distance learning goals outlined in the federal CARES funding guidelines.

Staff Recommends that the Board authorize the allocation of \$10,000,000 in CARES Act funding to facilitate distance learning for Riverside County students; and authorize the HHPWS Director, or designee, to execute a finalized Subrecipient Agreement, subject to County Counsel approval.

Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the Project and the Agreement were reviewed and determined to be categorically exempt from CEQA under State CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3), General Rule of "Common Sense" exemption. The Project includes a Subrecipient Agreement which allows for the sharing of current funds among the six community colleges in Riverside County to provide training and development to County residents and small businesses. It can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the Project may have a significant effect on the environment, as the aforementioned activities will have purely financial and social-welfare benefits and will not lead to any direct or reasonably indirect physical environmental impacts.

Impact on Residents and Businesses

The proposed funding allocation will provide digital devices and hotspots to underserved students and will expand access to online service. This will ensure that all students have the necessary tools to continue their education during the COVID-19 pandemic.

ADDITIONAL FISCAL INFORMATION:

N/A

ATTACHMENTS:

N/A

Harper, Kecia

From: Lou Monville <Lou@raincrosscorp.com>
Sent: Monday, August 3, 2020 5:21 PM
To: Harper, Kecia
Cc: Perez, Juan; Maldonado, Michael
Subject: Item 3.5 Support Letter
Attachments: 8-4-20 Item 3.5 Support Ltr.pdf

CAUTION: This email originated externally from the Riverside County email system.
DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Madam Clerk-

I hope this email finds you well.

On behalf of the Riverside County Economic Recovery Task Force, please find the attached letter in support of item 3.5 (All for One Campaign funding) on tomorrow's Board agenda. If you would please share with the Board and make this letter part of the public record I would be grateful.

Best Regards and Thank You,

Lou Monville

AUG 04 2020

3.5



August 3, 2020

Honorable V. Manuel Perez
Chairman
Riverside County Board of Supervisors
4080 Lemon Street
Riverside, Ca. 92501

Dear Chairman Perez,

On behalf of the Riverside County Economic Recovery Task Force (ERTF) I want to thank you and your colleagues for the leadership you have shown through this unprecedented COVID-19 crisis. Like you, we are anxious to get Riverside County businesses open and residents back to work as quickly as possible in a safe, responsible, and economically viable fashion.

The ERTF has been meeting regularly since April working through issues to safely reopen the economy while also addressing impediments and roadblocks to reopening. Since our earliest meetings, the issue of education and childcare have been at the forefront. Our economy will simply not get back to a place of stability without a robust system of support for children and families alike.

We urge you and your colleagues support of item 3.5 on your agenda for August 4, 2020. Homeschooling is a major roadblock for Riverside County employees and employers alike. We must guarantee every Riverside County child can access online instruction, until schools are back in session for classroom instruction. It is hard enough to both work and help educate children from your home, let's not let access to that online school instruction be another roadblock. This is critical to not only our economic reopening but also the social and physical wellbeing of parents and children alike in Riverside County.

While we have much work to do and a long road to recovery, we are confident Riverside County will emerge stronger and more vibrant than ever before.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lou Monville".

Lou Monville
Chairman
Riverside County Economic Recovery Task Force

cc:

Riverside County Supervisors Vice Chair Karen Spiegel

Riverside County Supervisor Jeff Hewitt

Riverside County Supervisor Kevin Jeffries

Riverside County Supervisor Chuck Washington

Riverside County Executive Officer George Johnson



Pledge

All students in Riverside County will graduate
from high school well prepared for college and the workforce.

August 3, 2020

Riverside County Board Of Supervisors
Supervisor Manuel Perez
4080 Lemon Street, 5th Floor
Riverside, CA 92501

Dear Supervisor Perez:

On behalf of the Riverside County Office of Education Foundation Board of Directors, I would like to submit this letter of support for the approval of the CARES Funding to our "All for One" program.

As you are aware, the Riverside County Office of Education (RCOE) is aiming to bridge our local digital divide with the launch of the "All for One", campaign. This important Foundation initiative is focused on raising funds to provide computers, tablets, and mobile hotspot devices to students and families to ensure that no student is left behind in Riverside County due to the rapid shift to online learning. As of July 2020, RCOE, estimates that 84,855 computer devices at an approximate cost of \$29.6 million and 44,730 hotspots at a cost of approximately \$6 million are needed to effectively deliver full-time online learning to students countywide. The All for One campaign is designed to leverage other public funding, private funding and support from the community.

The RCOE Foundation is very appreciative of the Board of Supervisor's consideration for this very important donation to our deserving students here in Riverside County.

My best regards,

Ed Lewis
RCOE Foundation Director

From: COB

Sent: Monday, August 3, 2020 4:00 PM

To: George Johnson (GAJohnson@RIVCO.ORG) <GAJohnson@RIVCO.ORG>; Young, Alisa <AYoung@RIVCO.ORG>; District 4 Supervisor V. Manuel Perez (District4@RIVCO.ORG) <District4@RIVCO.ORG>; District2 <District2@Rivco.org>; District3 <District3@Rivco.org>; District5 <District5@Rivco.org>; Supervisor Jeffries - 1st District (district1@rivco.org) <district1@rivco.org>

Subject: August 4, 2020 Item 3.5 Public Comment on CARES Funding for Office of Education (Yadira Chavelas)

Good afternoon,

Forwarding email and attached received via COB for August 4, 2020, Item No 3.5 (MinuteTraj No 13191).

Printed for Agenda back-up.

Thank you kindly,

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
4080 Lemon Street, 1st Floor, Room 127
Riverside, CA 92501
(951) 955-1060 Fax (951) 955-1071
Mail Stop #1010

cob@rivco.org

website: <http://rivcocob.org/>

<https://www.facebook.com/RivCoCOB/>



TOGETHER, Everybody Counts!



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From: Yadira Chavelas <YCHAVELAS@rcoe.us>

Sent: Monday, August 3, 2020 3:13 PM

To: COB <COB@RIVCO.ORG>

Subject: Funding Allocation Support Letter - Riverside County Office of Education Foundation

Yadira Chavelas

Administrative Assistant

Office of the Riverside County

Superintendent of Schools

Riverside County Office of Education

☎ 951.826.6456 | F 951.826.6199

3939 Thirteenth Street | P.O. Box 868 | Riverside, CA 92502

ychavelas@rcoe.us | www.rcoe.us



Maxwell, Sue

From: COB
Sent: Tuesday, August 4, 2020 9:55 AM
To: George Johnson (GAJohnson@RIVCO.ORG); Young, Alisa; District 4 Supervisor V. Manuel Perez (District4@RIVCO.ORG); District2; District3; District5; Supervisor Jeffries - 1st District (district1@rivco.org)
Subject: August 4, 2020 Item 3.5 Public Comment on CARES (Kim Cousins)

Greetings,

Forwarding an email received via COB for August 4, 2020 Item No 3.5.

Filed with Agenda back-up.

Sincerely,

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
4080 Lemon Street, 1st Floor, Room 127
Riverside, CA 92501
(951) 955-1060 Fax (951) 955-1071
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From: Kim Joseph Cousins <kim@lakeelsinorechamber.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 4, 2020 9:29 AM
To: COB <COB@RIVCO.ORG>
Cc: Supervisor Kevin Jeffries <rivcodistrict1@public.govdelivery.com>
Subject: Agenda Item # 3.5

Dear Board of Supervisors,

As the President/CEO of the Lake Elsinore Valley Chamber of Commerce and a Trustee for Riverside County Office of Education Area 1, I encourage you to VOTE YES on Agenda Item # 3.5.

It is critical to the Education Success of our Students in Riverside County to have access to online instruction.

Please Support the All for One Campaign!!