



**COMMISSION
AGENDA MEMORANDUM**

Item No. 10a

ACTION ITEM

Date of Meeting April 13, 2021

DATE : March 26, 2021

TO: Stephen P. Metruck, Executive Director

FROM: LeeAnne Schirato, Commission Specialist

SUBJECT: **Interlocal Agreement with Highline Public Schools, Maritime High School**

Amount of this request: \$125,000

Total estimated project cost: \$125,000

ACTION REQUESTED

Request Commission authorization for the Executive Director to sign an Interlocal Agreement (ILA) with Highline Public Schools, Maritime High School, substantially in the form attached, with minor changes to be approved by legal counsel, as appropriate. The ILA will facilitate the transfer of Port of Seattle funds to Highline Public Schools as authorized in the 2021 budget.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Per the interlocal agreement, Highline Public Schools (HPS) will create instructional design plans demonstrating a maritime-focused curriculum. HPS will also provide a six-month report and a final report to include community engagement, partnership development, family and student engagement, demographics, number of students trained, recruited, and any other tangible benefits of the program.

Highline Public School staff estimates the total Highline Public Schools contribution for this project is about \$345,000. So far Highline Public School staff has given in-kind staff time of approximately \$125,000, in spring 2021. During the 2021-2022 school year, Highline Public School will spend at least \$500,000 for the basic operations of the school, with about \$200,000 dedicated to this project and \$20,000 for in-kind use of facilities.

Instructional Design Plans

Extensive work will take place to develop the overall academic program for Maritime High School. This work will encompass addressing all components necessary to graduate from high school, as well as incorporating maritime content throughout. The instructional design work from now through December 2021 will focus on the design of a series of integrated projects and include the following:

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- Alignment of meaningful and relevant projects to academic standards and specific competencies and standards related to maritime.
- Development of culturally-responsive assessments of student learning, including structures for sharing learning in multiple modalities.
- Design of support structures for student success in accessing academic, including specific maritime-related learning.
- Creation and curation of lessons, units and materials to support meaningful, real-world and engaging content to support learning across academic areas integrated with maritime content.

JUSTIFICATION

The Executive Director included \$125,000 in the Commission authorized 2021 budget to support the development and implementation of high school credit earning, project-based learning opportunities to be administered by HPS. The school will be located in South King County and operated by HPS and will include curricula focused on port-related industries, including maritime and green jobs. The allocated funding aligns with the Port's Workforce Development Policy Directive and Duwamish Valley Community Benefits Commitment Policy Directive.

DETAILS

In September 2019, the Port of Seattle convened a Maritime Secondary Education Summit to discuss how to design educational programs that will foster student interest and passion for the maritime industry and ocean sciences, close workforce skill gaps and support environmental sustainability.

In early 2020, Seattle Public Schools, Highline Public Schools, Federal Way Public Schools and the Tukwila School District leaders convened to explore and identify the district that would serve as the leading educational entity for this project, with a clear and indisputable choice in Highline Public Schools. This past fall, HPS took the next step in this project by establishing a taskforce of Highline staff to move the project forward, guided by a design team of industry partners and a broader advisory team to inform the work. HPS also assembled an Advisory Board representing industry, education, community and government stakeholders to provide ongoing project advisement. Since then, HPS has also:

- Identified the Duwamish River Cleanup Coalition (DRCC) to serve as a community engagement liaison and provide invaluable insight and perspective into the diverse Duwamish Valley communities.
- Contracted with Northwest Maritime Center (NWMC) to provide direction and guidance related to maritime education and critical fundraising support.
- Selected Tremain Holloway as the founding principal.
- Received enrollment applications from 41 interested freshmen students.
- Received unanimous approval from the Washington State Board of Education for a traditional credit waiver necessary to support a true project-based learning experience.

- Announced that the school will launch in September 2021.

The school will be temporarily located at the Olympic Interim site, 615 S 200th St, Des Moines, WA 98198. It will also provide regular onsite learning opportunities in South Park and along the Duwamish River.

The school is designed to:

- Expose students to the educational and employment opportunities provided by the region’s robust maritime industry.
- Develop and sustain a workforce that mirrors the diversity of the residents of South King County.
- Explore the region’s extensive maritime history.
- Include a focus on environmental stewardship, with a recognition that clean waterways, such as the Duwamish River, are a necessary element of the maritime and green jobs industries.
- Build on the District’s existing commitment to the industry and an expertise with the subject matter, as evidenced by the Marine Science Technology program at the Puget Sound Skills Center.
- Build on the Port’s commitment to the Duwamish Valley through community collaboration and targeted outreach.
- Be open to students who reside within the District and students who live within the Puget Sound region, including communities adjacent to the Duwamish River, who are interested in the maritime and green jobs industries.

HPS will support King County students through the efforts of the Maritime High School and provide project-based learning opportunities with an emphasis on port-related industries. The following sections outline the upcoming body of work for the Maritime High School, including, but not limited to, the Port/Highline ILA:

Instructional Design Plans (subject of the ILA)

Extensive work will take place to develop the overall academic program for Maritime High School. This work will encompass addressing all components necessary to graduate from high school, as well as incorporating maritime content throughout. The instructional design work from now through December 2021 will focus on the design of a series of integrated projects and include the following:

- Alignment of meaningful and relevant projects to academic standards and specific competencies and standards related to maritime.
- Development of culturally-responsive assessments of student learning, including structures for sharing learning in a multiple modalities.
- Design of support structures for student success in accessing academic, including specific maritime-related learning.

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- Creation and curation of lessons, units and materials to support meaningful, real-world and engaging content to support learning across academic areas integrated with maritime content.

Community Engagement

Short- and long-term strategies will be developed to engage a community partners to support access to the school. Activities will include the following:

- Innovative events to share information about the school and solicit input for ongoing development of the overall program.
- Social media presences to sustain ongoing interest in and support of the school.
- Newsletter publication to share information with stakeholders to nurture and grow support of the school.
- Meeting and networking with community groups supporting the school.

Partnership Development

In order to engage students in hands-on and relevant learning, relationships will be developed with partners to build and deepen learning experiences. Specifically, the following will take place:

- Develop plans for mentorship programming to connect students to industry and community professionals.
- Build opportunities for extended learning at industry and community sites aligned with standards and maritime competencies.
- Sustain relationships to ensure high quality engagement of partners to inform ongoing development of academic programming to be informed by current and future needs in maritime sector employment.

Family and Student Engagement

To ensure families and students are fully engaged with the development and operation of the school, extensive work will take place to ensure multiple opportunities to provide input on programming, as well as general events to ensure families are fully knowledgeable about the school program, and the full range of employment in the maritime sector. Specifically, the school will:

- Establish a student structure to provide input on the overall design of the school, as well incorporating student interests into learning.
- Provide multiple venues for families to provide input, including live meetings and asynchronous platforms for feedback.
- Host events for families to connect with industry and community partners to learn about the full range of maritime careers.

Staff development

Long-term sustainability of the school relies on strong staff development. To support this, significant effort will be invested in staff development, including:

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- Instructional coaching of staff on project-based learning, with a specific focus on connecting to maritime careers.
- Increasing and developing staff’s knowledge of maritime careers and related competencies.
- Developing and supporting staff capacity to build authentic and meaningful relationships with maritime-focused partners.

Schedule

<u>Deliverable</u>	<u>Milestone Payment</u>	<u>Schedule</u>
Instructional Design Plans demonstrating Maritime focus of curriculum. Six Month Report to include community engagement, partnership development, family & student engagement, and demographics and number of students trained, recruited, and any other tangible benefits of the program.	\$62,500	June 15, 2021
Annual Report to include community engagement, partnership development, family & student engagement, and demographics and number of students trained, recruited, and any other tangible benefits of the program.	\$62,500	December 15, 2021
NOT TO EXCEED TOTAL:	\$125,000	

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FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The total estimated services will not exceed \$125,000, from the tax levy, to be paid during the 2020-21 year (the June payment) and the 21-22 school year (the December payment).

ATTACHMENTS TO THIS REQUEST

- (1) Interlocal Agreement for Partnership and Cooperation between Highline Public Schools and the Port of Seattle.
- (2) Exhibit A, Deliverables and Payment
- (3) Presentation

PREVIOUS COMMISSION ACTIONS OR BRIEFINGS

N/A