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Date: 9/3/2014 1:21:27 PM

Subject: FW: Preschool Expansion Grant

Attachments: [Preschool Expansion Analysis.docx](#)

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Christian and Josh:

I apologize for being out of the loop for the past few weeks! I'm in the homestretch for the assessment RFP work. I will never ever forgive myself for this! I've never seen such a lack of common sense in all my life from the Rutledge Building! I've even resorted to using some very rude language recently. . .

On to another topic. . . I have been asked by several legislators about the attached federal grants opportunity. It is my understanding that SCDE is not going to apply for the federal monies. The Governor could appoint the EOC as the lead agency. What I would like to discuss with you is the possibility of applying for the grant through the EOC but using a public-private partnership model using TransformSC. I would like to see another early childhood success program like that in Swansea (Lexington 4). If the Governor is not interested since it involves federal grants, I completely understand. Bunnie Ward is on staff with the EOC now and could help write the grant. . . See the attached that Bunnie did to summarize the grant process, etc.

Let me know if you have time to talk!

Melanie

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From: Ward, Bunni

Sent: Tuesday, September 02, 2014 4:47 PM

To: Barton, Melanie

Subject: Preschool Expansion Grant

Hey Melanie:

Now I have the correct grant.

EOC is eligible to apply as long as Governor identifies EOC as Lead Agency. SC qualifies under the Expansion Grant (EG) category and would need to reach and serve additional eligible four-year-olds in two high needs communities. The support and engagement of SDE and State First Steps are critical. One of the application requirements is a letter of support from an operational State Advisory Council on Early Childhood Education and Care (H. 3428 states membership of the Advisory Council is exclusively comprised of First Steps Board membership).

Think the benefit of EOC being lead agency is from the research/data perspective. A requirement is that by the end of the grant the State must have a Statewide Longitudinal Data System that links early childhood data with the State's kindergarten through grade 12 (K-12) data system.

Deadline for letter of intent is September 11, 2014.