

Resolution No.: 18-332
Introduced: November 3, 2015
Adopted: November 17, 2015

**COUNTY COUNCIL
FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND**

Lead sponsor: Councilmember Navarro
Co-sponsors: Council President Leventhal, Education Committee Chair Rice, Councilmembers
Berliner, Elrich, Floreen, Hucker, Katz, and Riemer

SUBJECT: Special Appropriation to the FY16 Operating Budget
Montgomery County Government
Children's Opportunity Fund Non-Departmental Account
\$750,750 (Source of Funds: General Fund Reserves)

Background

1. Section 308 of the County Charter provides that a special appropriation is an appropriation which states that it is necessary to meet an unforeseen disaster or other emergency, or to act without delay in the public interest. Each special appropriation shall be approved by not less than six Councilmembers. The Council may approve a special appropriation at any time after public notice by news release. Each special appropriation shall specify the source of funds to finance it.
2. The Council is committed to investing in high quality, evidence based interventions and programs that support student achievement, particularly for students with low income and with other needs.
3. The "Building Educated Leaders for Life" (BELL) program partners with schools to expand learning time over the summer and mitigate the loss of learning that often occurs during the summer break. The summer program is designed to support students who lack the reading and math skills to perform at grade level through a model of both academic and enrichment support.
4. In Montgomery County, the BELL model will be a public-private partnership that leverages funding from the Rales Foundation as well as other local philanthropy to support public investment in a sustainable funding model.

5. It is estimated that \$1.5 million per year is needed to implement this program in Montgomery County. The proposed funding model is for \$475,375 to come from the Rales Foundation; \$375,375 to come from other local fundraising, supported by the Rales Foundation; and \$750,750 to come from County resources. This is proposed to be a four year partnership. FY16 will be a pilot year for this program. Following FY16 the County and its partners will evaluate whether to continue or expand the program going forward.
6. The Children's Opportunity Fund will be responsible for working with Montgomery County Government, Montgomery County Public Schools, and other community stakeholders to determine the implementation mechanism and structure for the BELL program.
7. Notice of public hearing was given and a public hearing was held.

Action

The County Council for Montgomery County, Maryland, approves the following action:

A special appropriation to the FY16 Operating Budget of the Montgomery County Government Children's Opportunity Fund Non-Departmental Account is approved in the amount of \$750,750. The source of funds is General Fund Reserves. This appropriation must only be used to implement the BELL program through a public private partnership.

This is a correct copy of Council action.



Linda M. Lauer, Clerk of the Council