

Community Development and Recreation Committee Item 17.3

(Considered by City Council on July 15, 16 and 17, 2008)

CD17.3	Adopted			Ward: All
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Full-Day Learning for Four-and Five-Year Olds

City Council Decision

City Council on July 15, 16 and 17, 2008, adopted the following motions:

1. City Council endorse the principles from the Full-day Learning Forum co-sponsored by the Children's Services Advisory Committee and Toronto Best Start Network, as outlined in Appendix A and including the following additional principles:
 - “21. Appropriate training is needed for early childhood practitioners including Early Childhood Educators and for Ontario certified teachers.
 22. The Early Learning and Child Care Program must have adequate, long-term sustainable funding and capital funding to support the creation of appropriate space for full-day learning and child care.”,and that a copy of these Principles to sent to the Early Learning Advisor.
2. City Council also adopt the principle that the success of full-day learning implementation requires that the City’s child care system is adequately funded to meet the child care needs of its residents.
3. City Council urge the Province of Ontario and the Early Learning Advisor to ensure that during the transition to full-day learning, school space is preserved.

(June 18, 2008) Report from General Manager, Children's Services

Committee Recommendations

The Community Development and Recreation Committee recommends that:

1. City Council endorse the principles from the Full-day Learning Forum co-sponsored by the Children's Services Advisory Committee and Toronto Best Start Network as outlined in Appendix A and including the following additional principles:

- “21. Appropriate training is needed for early childhood practitioners including Early Childhood Educators and for Ontario certified teachers.
22. The Early Learning and Child Care Program must have adequate, long-term sustainable funding and capital funding to support the creation of appropriate space for full-day learning and child care.”,

and that a copy of these Principles to sent to the Early Learning Advisor.

2. City Council also adopt the principle that the success of full-day learning implementation requires that the City’s child care system is adequately funded to meet the child care needs of its residents.
3. City Council urge the Province of Ontario and the Early Learning Advisor to ensure that during the transition to full-day learning, school space is preserved.

Committee Decision Advice and Other Information

The Community Development and Recreation Committee requested the General Manager, Children's Services, to report to the Community Development and Recreation Committee in September 2008, on the financial implications of the full day learning program on existing child care programs and the funding issues facing the child care system.

Financial Impact

This report has no financial impact.

Summary

This report recommends the City endorse key principles developed at a Forum on Full-day Learning co-sponsored by the Children's Services Advisory Committee and Toronto Best Start Network and that the principles be sent to the Early Learning Adviser for his consideration in developing a strategy for implementing full-day learning for four- and five-year-olds.

Background Information (Committee)

cd17.3-Staff Report

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2008/cd/bgrd/backgroundfile-14383.pdf>

Speakers (Committee)

Jane Mercer, Toronto Coalition for Better Child Care