



## Legislation Text

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**File #:** 18-0788, **Version:** 1

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**Item:**

**Pre-K Expansion Update - 30 mins**

**Date Of BOCC Meeting:** May 7, 2018

**Request for Board Action:**

The Board is requested to receive the update and ask any questions they wish.

Durham County Pre-K is a concept and program long in the making, as universal pre-k has long been recognized here as a powerful intervention with the power to improve lives. In seeking to move beyond the state's NCPK allocation of subsidized seats in Durham (themselves only partial subsidies that do not meet the full cost of providing high quality pre-k), the Durham County Board of County Commissioners made a commitment to an initial 8 classrooms in the renovated Whitted School. These classrooms opened in the fall of 2017 with a County investment of \$1.5 million. During FY17-18 budget deliberations, the County Commissioners and County Manager also committed to put up to \$3.7 million in additional funding into the expansion of Durham County Pre-K in FY18-19. Staff were directed to take a variety of appropriate and necessary steps to prepare for this ongoing expansion.

In the fall of 2017, Durham County went under contract with Child Care Services Association to conduct a "supply and demand study" related to pre-k in Durham, a study which had been one of the principal recommendations of the Durham County Pre-School Task Force Report presented in the spring of 2017. That study and all its component parts is still underway, with interim information available over the course of the spring and final report due before the end of the fiscal year. It is also true, however, that we already know a good deal about the supply and demand for pre-k in Durham which can inform our expansion plans.

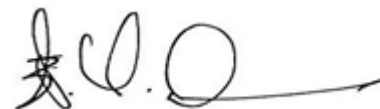
In December of 2017 Durham County issued an RFP for "Pre-K Expansion Management Services." Proposals were due in late January and single, joint proposal from Child Care Services Association and Durham's Partnership for Children was received. The proposal was reviewed by a number of internal and external partners over the course of February and early March.

The County desires to have a single organization working on our behalf, leading and guiding our efforts to successfully expand access to high quality pre-K in Durham. Barring other direction from the County Commissioners, staff will pursue a contract with Child Care Services Association for pre-K expansion management with the expectation that they will sub-contract as necessary for various portions of the work.

**Alignment with Strategic Plan:** A strong, high-quality pre-k program available at low or no cost to all lower income Durham four year olds will help educational success and quality of life for the individuals and households that receive it, but will have ripple effects (and be affected) across multiple County goal areas.

**Resource Persons:** Drew Cummings, Chief of Staff

**County Manager's Recommendation:** The County Manager recommends that the Board receive the update and ask any questions they wish.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "K.O." followed by a horizontal line.

County Manager: \_\_\_\_\_