



A Memo for Southeast Seattle Education Coalition | FEPP Levy - Select Committee Notes, June 10

Full Video: [Select Committee on the Families, Education, Preschool, and Promise Levy 6-Year Implementation and Evaluation Plan 6/10/2026 | seattlechannel.org](#)

On June 10, the FEPP Levy Select Committee, composed of the full Seattle City Council, began its public review of the proposed six-year Implementation and Evaluation Plan. The committee's role is to review current and future educational needs, consider the Mayor's proposed six-year spending plan, and ultimately deliberate and vote on adoption of the FEPP Levy Implementation and Evaluation Plan.

This plan sets the rules for how levy investments will be distributed, implemented, and evaluated through 2031. This is a key phase in implementation. Council is not adding new funding, but determining how funding will be awarded, measured, and managed over time.

This memo highlights where City investments are headed, what opportunities and challenges may emerge for community organizations, and where we may need to organize collectively to influence implementation.

Key Points from DEEL + Deputy Major Presentation

Full Presentation: [Inf 2910 - Presentation](#)

Spotlight: Ready to Learn (*K-12 and CBO Innovation Investments*)

1. **Community Schools:** The City plans to implement the 'Community School Model' through a competitive application process. Schools that receive funding will need:
 - A Community School Coordinator + A partnership with a community-based organization (CBO)+ Out-of-school-time programs for students
 - Community Schools Framework (Four Pillars)
 - **Expanded learning:** After-school, summer, tutoring, and enrichment programs
 - **Student supports:** Health, mental health, housing, and basic needs support
 - **Family and community engagement:** Families and community members as active partners in schools
 - **Shared leadership:** Schools and communities making decisions together
2. **Youth Safety Investments:** The City is increasing investments in programs that support youth through prevention and positive engagement. This includes:
 - Street outreach
 - Restorative justice programs
 - Counseling approaches like cognitive behavioral therapy
 - Mentorship and life coaching
3. **School Meals:** The City will provide temporary funding for school meals while the State rolls out its own universal free meals program. This funding comes from existing levy reserves and does not reduce money from other programs. The goal is to make sure students continue to have access to meals during the transition.

How Funding Will Work

Most funding will be awarded through competitive applications instead of being automatically given to specific areas or organizations. Programs will need to report regularly on results and outcomes. The City will track performance and may adjust or change funding based on results over time. Many programs will serve the whole city rather than being assigned to specific neighborhoods.

Advocacy Considerations from SESEC

A key issue in FEPP implementation is how community-based organizations (CBOs) will be positioned in practice, and what that means for their ability to shape and deliver investments.

Role of Community-Based Organizations

CBOs may be treated in one of two ways:

- **As contractors**, responsible for delivering specific services defined by the City
- **As strategic partners**, who help define needs, design approaches, and share accountability for outcomes

These roles are not the same. Contractors are typically accountable for delivering a set scope of work and reporting outputs. Strategic partners bring trusted relationships, cultural knowledge, and lived experience, and help shape both the design of programs and how success is defined. For Southeast Seattle, this distinction is important because many effective student and family supports come from culturally responsive organizations that already hold community trust.

Access to Funding

As implementation moves forward, coalition members should pay attention to:

- What funding opportunities are available to community organizations
- Whether those opportunities are accessible to smaller and grassroots groups
- Whether larger institutions are advantaged in competitive processes
- How multilingual and culturally specific organizations are included and supported

Definitions of Success

The plan emphasizes measurable outcomes, but key questions remain:

- Who defines success and how it is measured
- Whether evaluation methods reflect relationship-based and culturally grounded work
- What outcomes community organizations are expected to contribute to

Core Question

At the center of implementation is a basic question of role and power: Will community-based organizations be recognized as co-stewards of public investment, or primarily as service providers implementing priorities set elsewhere?

Call to Action: Public Testimony

We are encouraging coalition members to provide public testimony so that the official record reflects the perspectives and expertise of organizations working closest to children, youth, and families in Southeast Seattle.

Upcoming Opportunities to Testify

- **Hearing date(s):** June 30, July 8, and July 22, 2026
- **Time:** 9:30 a.m.

- **Where:** 600 4th Avenue, Seattle, WA 98104

In-Person Testimony	Remote Testimony	Written Testimony
• Arrive at least 15 minutes before the meeting begins • Sign up in person at Seattle City Council Chambers • Public comment is generally limited to about 2 minutes per speaker	• Register online starting one hour before the meeting begins • Advance registration is required in order to speak remotely • More information is available here: https://www.seattle.gov/council/meetings/public-comment	• Submit written comments to: council@seattle.gov

Suggested Public Testimony Topics

- **Community organizations as partners in implementation:** How the City can ensure CBOs are included as co-designers of programs, not only service providers.
- **Equitable access to funding:** How small, grassroots, multilingual, and culturally specific organizations can realistically access competitive funding processes.
- **Equity in implementation:** How the City will ensure investments reach Southeast Seattle communities and other priority populations in practice, not just in stated goals.
- **Definitions of success and accountability:** How outcomes will be defined and whether measures reflect relationship-based, culturally responsive, and long-term impact.
- **School-based implementation and partnerships:** How community organizations will be meaningfully included in school-centered service delivery models such as Community Schools.
- **Transparency in funding decisions:** How RFP scoring, selection criteria, and equity considerations will be shared and applied.