

APPROVED
JUN 05 2019

**BOARD OF RECREATION
AND PARK COMMISSIONERS**

BOARD REPORT

NO. 19-096

DATE: June 5, 2019

C.D. 14

BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT: **JOY PICUS CHILD CARE CENTER – TUITION RATE AND FEE INCREASE
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2019-20**

| | | | |
|-----------|-------|------------------|------------|
| AP Diaz | _____ | S. Piña-Cortez | _____ |
| H. Fujita | _____ | C. Santo Domingo | _____ |
| V. Israel | _____ | *N. Williams | <u>NDW</u> |



General Manager

Approved X Disapproved _____ Withdrawn _____

RECOMMENDATIONS

Approve the proposed Joy Picus Childcare Center monthly tuition and fees page for Fiscal Year 2019–2020, as attached hereto as Attachment 1, with such rates and fees to be effective July 1, 2019.

SUMMARY

Mount Washington Preschool and Child Care Centers, Inc. (MWPCCC) has operated the Joy Picus Childcare Center (Center) since 2009, located within City Hall South at 111 East First Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012. MWPCCC executed their most recent Contract No. 3538 (Contract) in 2016, as a result of a Request of Proposal process administered by the Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP). The original Contract previously allowed MWPCCC to request approval from the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners (Board) for a 3.5% increase to their tuition and fees page annually. The Board approved the 3.5% tuition and fee increase every year since 2016. However, a Second Amendment to the Contract was approved by the Board on June 6, 2018, increasing the allowable percentage rate increase MWPCCC is allowed to request annually, to 4% each year. At such time, the Board also authorized the 4% increase for the 2018-19 fiscal year. The annual increases have been supported each year by the Joy Picus Parent Advisory Committee, as the reason for the annual increases is to position MWPCCC financially to be able to gradually boost Joy Picus employee wages and benefits to Fifteen Dollars (\$15.00) per hour in order to comply with the City’s minimum wage requirement by 2020, and to improve the health and dental benefits offered to staff in order to attract and retain quality staff.

In accordance with Section 6.10 of said Contract, MWPCCC submitted a letter request to RAP on March 19, 2019, requesting authorization to increase the tuition and fees by 4%, attached hereto as Attachment 2. If approved, the new tuition rates will become effective July 1, 2019.

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Based on MWPCCC's written request outlining the reasons for the tuition increase and the Board's previous tuition rate increase approvals, Staff recommends that the Board approve the proposed 2019-2020 Monthly Tuition and Fee Rates as presented by Attachment 1.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

Approving the tuition and fee increases has no fiscal impact on RAP's General Fund.

This report was prepared by Edneisha Lee, Management Assistant, Partnership Section.

LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

- 1) Proposed 2019-2020 Monthly Tuition and Fee Rates
- 2) Mount Washington Preschool and Childcare Centers, Inc. Tuition Increase Request Letter

Proposed 2019-2020 Tuition and Fee Schedule**JOY PICUS CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER**

2019 - 2020 Monthly Tuition Rates
Effective: July 1, 2019

Waiting List Fee: To be paid at the time application is turned in (non-refundable): \$ 83.00
Enrollment Fee: To be paid at the time of enrollment: \$ 143.00

| Infants - Ratio 3:1 | City Rate | Community Rate |
|------------------------------------|-------------|----------------|
| 5 days per week | \$ 1,389.00 | \$ 1,437.00 |
| 4 days per week | \$ 1,236.00 | \$ 1,283.00 |
| 3 days per week | \$ 933.00 | \$ 967.00 |
| 2 days per week | \$ 625.00 | \$ 646.00 |
| Extra day of care (when available) | \$ 83.00 | \$ 83.00 |

| Toddlers - Ratio 4:1 | City Rate | Community Rate |
|------------------------------------|-------------|----------------|
| 5 days per week | \$ 1,362.00 | \$ 1,410.00 |
| 4 days per week | \$ 1,212.00 | \$ 1,258.00 |
| 3 days per week | \$ 913.00 | \$ 947.00 |
| 2 days per week | \$ 611.00 | \$ 634.00 |
| Extra day of care (when available) | \$ 83.00 | \$ 83.00 |

| Preschool I - Ratio 6:1 | City Rate | Community Rate |
|------------------------------------|-------------|----------------|
| 5 days per week | \$ 1,202.00 | \$ 1,271.00 |
| 4 days per week | \$ 1,051.00 | \$ 1,104.00 |
| 3 days per week | \$ 814.00 | \$ 851.00 |
| 2 days per week | \$ 573.00 | \$ 611.00 |
| Extra day of care (when available) | \$ 83.00 | \$ 83.00 |

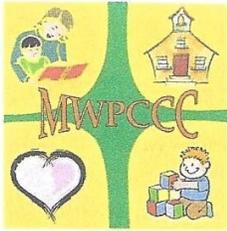
| Preschool II - Ratio 8:1 | City Rate | Community Rate |
|------------------------------------|-------------|----------------|
| 5 days per week | \$ 1,021.00 | \$ 1,128.00 |
| 4 days per week | \$ 932.00 | \$ 991.00 |
| 3 days per week | \$ 722.00 | \$ 776.00 |
| 2 days per week | \$ 508.00 | \$ 550.00 |
| Extra day of care (when available) | \$ 83.00 | \$ 83.00 |

Hours of Operation: 6:30AM - 6:00PM Monday through Friday

Holidays/Closure Days: Closed all City Holidays & other days per schedule provided annually

- Tuition is due by the first (1st) of every month.
- If the 1st is on a holiday or weekend, then tuition is due on the NEXT business day.
- A \$10.00 per day late fee will be applied to tuition received after the 1st of the month.
- A \$1.00 per minute late pick-up fee will be applied for late pick-up after 6:00PM.
- There are no tuition credits or adjustments for illness, holidays, vacations or circumstances beyond our control.

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: MWPCCC



**Mount Washington
Preschool and
Child Care
Center, Inc.**

March 19, 2019

Joel Alvarez, Senior Management Analyst II
Partnership Division
City of Los Angeles
Department of Recreation and Parks
221 N. Figueroa Street
Suite 180 (Mail Stop #628-9)
Los Angeles, CA 90012

RE: Joy Picus Child Development Center Contract Number 3538

Dear Mr. Alvarez:

As you have heard, the Joy Picus Child Development Center achieved re-accreditation through the National Association of the Education for Young Children (NAEYC) last year. This means that we provide a high-quality education and experience to the youngest child and their parents in Los Angeles. The Joy Picus Child Development Center is not only seen as a great child development center, but the employees of the City of Los Angeles request our services for many of their services as well. In this past year, we have worked closely with the Mayor's office in the Read, Baby Read Campaign by the Los Angeles Public Library. We then headed over to City Hall in October to participate in the Great Shake Out with the Mayor. Former Councilmember Joy Picus herself emailed me recently to say that she loved the picture of the Joy Picus Children watching over the LAUSD Teachers striking in the Los Angeles Times.

Last year we came to you asking for a 4% tuition increase, and not only was it approved, our contract was amended to change our tuition increase cap from 3.5% to 4%. We had many parents on board, and in raising the tuition, we didn't lose any of our families. When we raised the tuition by 4%, we then raised all of the teachers' salaries by 4% as well. Not only did we raise their salaries, we increased our contribution to their health insurance from 60% to 75%.

This year, we are asking for the same increase. We would like to increase our tuition by 4%, and by doing this, we will raise the teachers' wages by 4% across the board. This way we are slightly above the City of Los Angeles minimum wage for our lowest paid teacher, and by 2020, our lowest paid teacher will make the City of Los Angeles minimum wage of \$15.00.

Through my research, I found that of the accredited centers in the downtown area, the Joy Picus Child Development Center's tuition is lower than many other centers. Preschool teachers are in a profession where their pay does not equal their education or the amount of work, they do every single day. Since we are NAEYC accredited, our teachers need to be working towards their Bachelor's degree, and 75% of them need to have their BA degrees by 2020.

Tel: 323.222.7114
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4601 N. Figueroa St.
Los Angeles, CA 90065

Joel Alvarez, Senior Management Analyst II
Partnership Division
City of Los Angeles
Department of Recreation and Parks
March 19, 2019
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We request that this tuition increase of 4% be approved, effective July 1, 2019. We will need to distribute letters to the parents no later than June 1, 2019, in order to give them the proper 30-day notice for the tuition increase.

We are also attaching the proposed 4% tuition rate sheet.

We appreciate your consideration of this tuition rate increase matter and look forward to hearing from you as soon as possible.

Thank you,



Tamara Brown, MA

Executive Director

Mount Washington Preschool and
Child Care Center, Inc.

4601 N. Figueroa Street

Los Angeles, CA 90065

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