UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA SYSTEM BOARD RULE 415 BOARD SUBMITTAL CHECKLIST CRITERIA

BOARD SUBMITTAL CHECKLIST NO. 1 CAPITAL PROJECT - STAGE I SUBMITTAL // (General Project Information)

CAMPUS: The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, Alabama

PROJECT NAME: RISE Center Playscape Renovations & Enhancements

MEETING DATE: June 6-7, 2024

1. Board Submittal Checklist No. 1

2. Transmittal Letter to Chancellor from Campus President requesting project be placed on the agendas for the forthcoming Physical Properties Committee and Board of Trustees (or Executive Committee) Meetings

3. Proposed Board Resolution requesting approval of Stage I Submittal by the Board of Trustees

4. Executive Summary – Proposed Capital Project /2

5. Supplemental Project Information Worksheet – Exhibit "K", Board Rule 415

6. Campus map(s) showing project site

Prepared by: Leila Ahmady

Approved by: Tim lespand

Of Chale 4/30/24

Reference Tab 3F – Board Rule 415 Instructional Guide Reference Tab 3E – Board Rule 415 Instructional Guide



April 30, 2024

Interim Chancellor Sid J. Trant The University of Alabama System 500 University Boulevard East Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35401

Dear Interim Chancellor Trant,

I am pleased to send to you for approval under Board Rule 415 the attached documents for a Stage I submittal for the RISE Center Playscape Renovations & Enhancements project.

The resolution requests authorization to establish a preliminary project scope, budget, and funding, as stipulated.

The item has been thoroughly reviewed and has my endorsement. With your concurrence, I ask that it be added to the agenda for The Board of Trustees at their regular meeting on June 6-7, 2024.

Sincerely,

Stuart R. Bel President

Enclosure



THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA

Approving the preliminary project scope and budget for the RISE Center Playscape Renovations & Enhancements

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, in accordance with Board Rule 415, The University of Alabama ("University") is requesting approval of a Stage I submittal for the RISE Center Playscape Renovations & Enhancements project ("Project") to be located at 600 Johnny Stallings Drive; and

WHEREAS, the Project will allow for a complete renovation of the existing exterior playground to provide inclusive, world-class, therapeutic playscapes that are accessible for children of all developmental levels and abilities; and

WHEREAS, since the current playground is not 100% accessible for all children and is nearing the end of its useful life, the proposed Project is critical for the RISE Center ("RISE") to maintain its mission of enriching the lives of infants and preschoolers – both traditional learners and children with varying abilities - and will provide an enhanced opportunity for children to thrive; and

WHEREAS, the new therapeutic playground areas will build upon the values of RISE to create different types of outdoor learning and play environments, better connecting children with nature and providing opportunities for creativity and agency for all abilities and developmental stages; and

WHEREAS, the Project includes three distinct playscape areas and has been organized in a way so that RISE can proceed with flexibility in coordination with receipt of funding as either individual construction packages or comprehensively; and

WHEREAS, the playscapes are included as Construction Package A – Infant Yard, Construction Package B – Toddler Yard, and Construction Package C – Preschool Yard, and are tailored to the specific developmental needs of the children; and

WHEREAS, the Construction Packages above include the associated playscape equipment as it will be installed integral with the work and included in the related package bids; and

WHEREAS, the Project location and program have been reviewed and are consistent with the University Campus Master Plan, University Design Standards and the principles contained therein; and

WHEREAS, the Project will be funded in the amount of \$600,000 from the Office of Academic Affairs Reserves and \$2,400,000 from Future Gifts for a total Project Cost of \$3,000,000 and will eliminate deferred maintenance liabilities in the amount of \$3,000,000; and

WHEREAS, the preliminary budget for the Project is as stipulated below:

| BUDGET: | PRELIMINARY |
|----------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Construction Package A - Infant Yard | \$ 346,934 |
| Construction Package B - Toddler Yard | \$ 461,533 |
| Construction Package C - Preschool Yard | \$ 1,079,333 |
| Landscaping | \$ 140,000 |
| Contingency¹ (10%) | \$ 188,780 |
| UA Project Management Fee² (4.5%) | \$ 93,446 |
| Architect/Engineer Fee ³ (~7.48%) | \$ 201,679 |
| Other ⁴ | \$ 166,866 |
| Escalation ⁵ | \$ 321,429 |
| TOTAL PROJECT COST | \$ 3,000,000 |

All Construction Package above include the associated playscape equipment as it will be installed integral with the work and included in the related package bids.
¹Contingency is based on 10% of the costs of Construction Packages A - C.

²UA Project Management Fee is based on 4.5% of the costs of Construction Packages A - C and Contingency.

³Architect/Engineer Fee is based on 6.8% of the costs of Construction Packages A – C and Landscaping, plus 10% renovation factor for a total of 7.48%, plus additional services for specialty consultant fees of \$50,000.

⁴Other fees and expenses include Geotech, Construction Materials Testing, Inspections, Advertising, Printing, and other associated project costs, as applicable.

⁵Escalation is currently based on an anticipated 1% inflation per month through September of 2024 and 0.5% per month thereafter. Therefore, escalation is calculated on a 12% basis for this project based on an anticipated bid date of February 2026 as included in the Project Status.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by The Board of Trustees of The University of Alabama that:

- 1. The Stage I submittal package for the Project is hereby approved.
- 2. The preliminary Project scope, budget, and funding, as stipulated above, are hereby approved.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY PROPOSED CAPITAL PROJECT BOARD OF TRUSTEES SUBMITTAL

| MEETING DATE: | June 6-7, 2024 | | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|-----------------|--|
| CAMPUS: | The University of A | Alabama, Tuscaloosa, Alaban | na | |
| PROJECT NAME: | RISE Center Playso | cape Renovations & Enhance | ments | |
| PROJECT NUMBER: | MBER: 017-24-3587 | | | |
| PROJECT LOCATION: | 600 Johnny Stalling | 600 Johnny Stallings Dr, Tuscaloosa, AL 35404 | | |
| ARCHITECT: | TBD | | | |
| THIS SUBMITTAL: | | PREVIOUS APPROVAL | L S: | |
| ⊠ Stage I | | | | |
| ☐ Stage II | | | | |
| ☐ Campus Master Plan Amend | ment | | | |
| ☐ Stage III | | | | |
| ☐ Stage IV | | | | |
| | | | | |
| PROJECT TYPE | SPACE CATEGORIES | PERCENTAGE | GSF | |
| ☐ Building Construction | | | | |
| ☐Building Addition | | | | |
| ☐Building Renovation | | | | |
| □Equipment | | | | |
| ⊠Other | Playground | 100% | 22,000 | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | TOTAL | 100% | 22,000 | |

| BUDGET | PRE | LIMINARY | |
|-----------------------------------------------|-----|-----------|--|
| Construction - Package A - Infant Yard | \$ | 346,934 | |
| Construction - Package B - Toddler Yard | \$ | 461,533 | |
| Construction - Package C - Pre-School Yard | \$ | 1,079,333 | |
| Landscaping | \$ | 140,000 | |
| Contingency ¹ (10%) | \$ | 188,780 | |
| UA Project Management Fee ² (4.5%) | \$ | 93,446 | |
| Architect/Engineer Fee ³ (7.48%) | \$ | 201,679 | |
| Other ⁴ | \$ | 166,866 | |
| Escalation ⁵ | \$ | 321,429 | |
| TOTAL PROJECT COST | \$ | 3,000,000 | |
| Total Construction Cost per square foot \$95 | | | |

All Construction Packages above include the associated playscape equipment as it will be installed integral with the work and included in the related package bids.

¹Contingency is based on 10% of the costs of Construction Packages A - C.

²UA Project Management Fee is based on 4.5% of the costs of Construction Packages A - C and Contingency.

 $^{^3}$ Architect/Engineer Fee is based on 6.8% of the costs of Construction Packages A – C and Landscaping, plus 10% renovation factor for a total of 7.48%, plus additional services for consultant fee of \$50,000.

⁴Other fees and expenses include Geotech, Construction Materials Testing, Inspections, Advertising, Printing, and other associated project costs, as applicable.

⁵Escalation is currently based on an anticipated 1% inflation per month through September of 2024 and 0.5% per month thereafter. Therefore, escalation is calculated on a 12% basis for this project based on an anticipated bid date of February 2026 as included in the Project Status.

ESTIMATED ANNUAL OPERATING AND MAINTENANCE (O&M) COSTS:

(Utilities, Housekeeping, Maintenance, Insurance, Other)

\$ N/A

Total Estimated Annual O&M Costs:

\$ N/A*

*No additional O&M costs are anticipated with the revitalized playscapes.

FUNDING SOURCE:

Office of Academic Affairs Reserves \$ 600,000

Future Gifts \$ 2,400,000

O&M Costs:

University Annual Operating Funds \$ N/A

NEW EQUIPMENT REQUIRED

Total Equipment Costs:

N/A

PROJECT SCOPE:

The RISE Center Playscape Renovations & Enhancements Project ("Project") is a full overhaul of the existing playground areas at the RISE Center and is necessary to continue to fulfill the center's mission of a blended learning environment where all kids shine. The current playground is not 100% accessible for all of the children at RISE, and this project will provide an opportunity for a state-of-the-art space for our children to thrive but to also be a model program for the Country when it comes to true accessibility for all levels of ability.

This Project will include therapeutic, fully-accessible infant, toddler and preschool yards for the children and additional landscaping.

The Project is key to enhancing the experience of the children and their families of the center.

The Project will also address drainage issues in the exterior playground areas.

Advancement and the College will pursue funds for both the overall Project and the individual playscape components as illustrated in the construction packages included in the Total Project Budget above. The University will execute on the Project either as individual packages or comprehensively in conjunction with realized fundraising.

All Construction Packages include the associated playscape equipment as it will be installed integral with the work and will be included in the related package bids.

| PROJECT STATUS | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| SCHEMATIC DESIGN: | Date Initiated % Complete Date Completed | January 2023 100% January 2024 |
| PRELIMINARY DESIGN: | Date Initiated % Complete Date Completed | September 2024 0% February 2025 |
| CONSTRUCTION DOCUMENTS: | Date Initiated % Complete Date Completed | February 2025 0% February 2026 |
| SCHEDULED BID DATE: | | February 2026 |

^{*}N/A on Stage I Projects

RELATIONSHIP AND ENHANCEMENT OF CAMPUS PROGRAMS

This project will enhance existing programs by continuing to provide childcare and serve faculty, staff, and students' children of all levels of ability by providing a better and more accessible experience for the children and their families. Having the ability to learn and grow through play alongside one another is critical in the mission of RISE and bridges the gap for families and children as they enter the next level of education.

RISE collaborates with faculty from across all academic units at UA to provide a space to learn and observe this unique learning environment that carries over into all of the disciplines at the University. Working closely with the faculty in our department of human development and family studies, RISE works collaboratively with the Children's Program and other teachers to engage and learn from different teaching and theory models for pre-k. RISE also collaborates with faculty from the Special Education program in the College of Education as well. This facility provides learning opportunities for academic programs and students who wish to work in fields related to special needs populations and the diverse career disciplines represented in a program like RISE. The new playground will further expand the footprint of learning opportunities for over 400 UA students each year, as well as faculty and families.

RISE also hosts a summer volunteer program that engages local high school students who are potentially interested in working with children with special needs. The Teen Volunteer Program has been an integral part of RISE Center for over 22 years, and we continually look to engage future UA students to volunteer each summer through this program.

Attachment K to Board Rule 415

Supplemental Project Information Worksheet Annual Capital Development Plan

FY: 2023 – 2024

| Project Name: RISE Center Playscape Renovations & Enhancements | | | ements | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Proj | ect Address/Location: | 600 Johnny Stallings | Dr, Tuscaloosa, AL 35404 | 4 |
| Campus: The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, Alab | | | ma | |
| 1. | Will this Project increas space? | e the current space in | ventory on campus or repl | ace existing |
| | Not Applicable. This is playscape areas, approxi | 1 0 | enovation and enhancemen | nts of the exterior |
| | increase space inve | entory | % increase | GSF |
| | replace space inve | ntory | % replacement | GSF |
| | renovation of exist | ting space only | | GSF |
| | assigned after this Proj Comments: Not applicable. This is a | ect is completed? | ntory, how will vacated sp | |
| 3. | University Design Stan | dards and the princip | nt with the Campus Moles contained therein? Amendment Is Required | laster Plan and |
| | If Campus Master Plan a | amendment required, ex | xplain: | |
| | | | | |

4. Provide information on classification of new space provided by this Project and latest utilization data on similar type space on campus.

Comments/Notations:

Not applicable. This is an existing exterior playground improvement project and no new space will be provided.

5. How will this Project enhance existing/new programs and undergraduate/graduate enrollments?

| Estimated | l new | Funds | from | Tuition/ | Programs | \$ NA |
|-----------|-------|-------|------|----------|----------|----------|
| | | | | | | |

Comments:

RISE was started in 1974 to enrich the lives of infants and preschoolers – both traditional learners and children with varying abilities. Through early intervention and early childhood preschool services, children at RISE are equipped with the skills necessary to succeed in an inclusive school setting. Children at RISE receive music therapy, physical therapy, occupational therapy and speech and language therapy in a classroom setting. Our team of nurses provide medical services to children in need throughout the day. The program includes seven classrooms led by highly qualified early childhood education teachers that embed individual therapy goals into daily developmentally appropriate activities. RISE is housed in a state-of-the-art early childhood education facility on the campus of The University of Alabama that is unparalleled in design and accommodations to meet the needs of all children. RISE is a part of the College of Human Environmental Sciences and provides opportunities for over 400 University students to experience evidence-based research practices in the field of early childhood education and early childhood special education. RISE Center currently serves close to 100 children and their families.

RISE also hosts a summer volunteer program that engages local high school students who are potentially interested in working with children with special needs. The Teen Volunteer Program has been an integral part of RISE Center for over 22 years, and we continually look to engage future UA students to volunteer each summer through this program.

This project is a full overhaul of the existing playground at the RISE Center and is necessary to continue to fulfill our mission at RISE of a blended learning environment where all kids shine. The current playground is not 100% accessible for all of the children at RISE and this project will provide an opportunity for a state of the art space for our children to thrive but to also be a model program for the Country when it comes to true accessibility for all levels of ability.

| 6. | Has a facility user group | een established to provide input for planning, programming |
|-----------|---------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| | and design purposes? | |

If yes, list key members of user group:

Andi Gillen, Director RISE Center Stuart Usdan, Dean, CHES Jason Bigelow, University Architect Leila Ahmady, UA Project Manager Bonner Lee, University Landscape Architect

7. Source(s) of funding for Total Project Development Costs.

| Source(s) | New Funds (FY) | Reserves | Status /7 |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Tuition | | | |
| Student Fees | | | |
| Investment Income | | | |
| Auxiliary Income | | | |
| • External | | | |
| Internal | | | |
| Education Sales/Services | | | |
| • External | | | |
| • Internal | | | |
| Direct Grants | As Available | | Pending |
| Gifts | \$2,400,000 | | Pending |
| Bonds | | | |
| Existing Net Assets | | | |
| | | | |
| Office of Academic Affairs Reserves | | \$600,000 | Pending |
| Totals | \$3,000,000 | | |

^{/7} Approved, allocated, pending

Comments:

The College will work with Advancement to identify potential gift and grant opportunities

Attachment K

to pursue for inclusive playscapes and are actively researching these possibilities while fundraising.

Advancement and the College will pursue funds for both the overall Project and the individual playscape components as illustrated in the Total Project Budget. The University will execute on the Project either as individual packages or comprehensively in conjunction with realized fundraising.

8. Estimate of operations and maintenance (O&M) costs for the initial occupancy year and projections for succeeding five (5) year period.

| Operations and Maintenance (O&M)Annual Costs Projections | | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| Expense | FY 2014- 2015 Base Data /8 | First Full /YR Occupancy FY | Successive Five (5) Year Projections /9 |
| Maintenance | | | |
| Elevator Service | | | |
| Building Repairs | | | |
| Building Services | | | |
| Electric, Natural Gas, Steam | | | |
| Chilled Water | | | |
| Water and Sewer | | | |
| Insurance | | | |
| Safety Support | | | |
| Operations Staff Support Funding | | | |
| Other – | | | |
| Totals | | | |

^{/8} Latest Fiscal Year Data used as Base Year for Projections

Comments:

Not applicable – existing play area.

^{/9} Combined Costs for next Five (5) Years of Occupancy

9. Source of funds for projected ongoing operations and maintenance (O&M) costs for this project.

| Source(s) | Occupancy Yr /9 (FY) | Future Years /10 | Status /7 |
|------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|-----------|
| Tuition | | | |
| Student Fees | | | |
| Investment Income | | | |
| Auxiliary Income | | | |
| • External | | | |
| • Internal | | | |
| Educational Sales & Services | | | |
| • External | | | |
| • Internal | | | |
| Direct Grant(s) | | | |
| Reallocated Funds /11 | | | |
| Gifts | | | |
| Other | | | |
| Total/YR | | | |

^{/9} Initial Full Yr of Occupancy

Comments:

Not applicable. Existing area that the maintenance of is currently budgeted through E & G.

10. Are development expenditures for this Project being used to reduce the current deferred maintenance/facilities renewal liabilities for the Campus?

| \$ 3,000,000 | 100 | % of Total Development Costs |
|-----------------|-----|------------------------------|
| | | 1 |

Comments:

The current playscape area is original to the 1994 construction and does not meet current standards and is beyond the expected service life for the space.

^{/10} Next Five (5) Yrs Occupancy

^{/11} Funds Reallocated from other sources

^{/7} Approved, allocated, pending

11. What other development alternatives were considered in the planning process for this Project? /13

/13 Renovation vs. new construction, adaptive reuse of underutilized buildings, etc.

Comments:

No other alternatives have been identified because the existing space is not 100% accessible for children of all levels of ability and is immediately adjacent to the existing facility.

This project is a full overhaul of the existing playground at the RISE Center and is necessary to continue to fulfill our mission at RISE of a blended learning environment where all kids shine. This project will provide an opportunity for a state-of-the-art space for our children to thrive but to also be a model program for the Country when it comes to true accessibility for all levels of ability.

12. Explain how the project will promote adequacy of campus facilities in relation to the University's Mission and scope of programs and/or services:

Comments:

This project is a full overhaul of the existing playground at the RISE Center and is necessary to continue to fulfill our mission at RISE of a blended learning environment where all kids shine. The current playground is not 100% accessible for all of the children at RISE and this project will provide an opportunity for a state-of-the-art space for our children to thrive but to also be a model program for the Country when it comes to true accessibility for all levels of ability.

13. How does the project correlate to the University's strategic goals?

Comments:

Teaching – RISE collaborates with faculty from across all academic units at UA to provide a space to learn and observe this unique learning environment that carries over into all of the disciplines at the University. Working closely with the faculty in our department of human development and family studies, RISE works collaboratively with the Children's Program and other teachers to engage and learn from different teaching and theory models for pre-k. RISE also collaborates with faculty from the Special Education program in the College of Education as well. This facility provides learning opportunities for academic programs and students who wish to work in fields related to special needs populations and the diverse career disciplines represented in a program like RISE. The new playground will further expand the footprint of learning opportunities for over 400 UA students each year, as well as faculty and families.

Research – RISE began as a grant-funded program many years ago and has become the standard in the US for the type of environment that encourages compassion, engagement

and learning from peers with developmental differences. RISE also challenges the knowledge base as it continues to learn and grow in the world of pre-K programs with blended learning environments.

Service – Throughout the academic year, the RISE Center provides service and volunteer hours for students across our campus. In the most recent academic year, we have supported over 400 students from the University, and allowed them the opportunity to volunteer and work with the children of RISE.

Not only do we provide service opportunities for UA students, but RISE engages members of the Tuscaloosa community, the UA community, and corporations from around the state in support of the children in our program. We are a model program and set the standard for the other RISE schools and programs across the US.

The first goal of the University's strategic plan is to "provide a premier education that enhances the lives of our students, graduates, and the communities they serve." This Project will advance that goal by:

Teaching – RISE collaborates with faculty from every College and School on campus to provide a space to learn and observe this unique learning environment that carries over into all of the disciplines at the University. Working closely with the faculty in our department of human development and family studies, RISE works collaboratively with the Children's Program and other teachers to engage and learn from different teaching and theory models for pre-k. This facility provides learning opportunities for academic programs and students who wish to work in fields related to special needs populations and the diverse career disciplines represented in a program like RISE. The new playground will further expand the footprint of learning opportunities for our students as well as faculty and families.

The second goal of the University's strategic plan is to "increase the University's productivity and innovation in research, scholarship and creative activities that impact economic and societal development." This Project will contribute to that goal by:

Research – RISE began as a grant many years ago and has become the standard in the U.S. for the type of environment that encourages compassion, engagement and learning from peers with developmental differences, and also challenges the knowledge base to continue to learn and grow in the world pre-K programs with blended learning environments. Faculty from numerous schools and colleges across campus have been and are actively engaged in research projects on preschool-aged children as well as children with special needs.

The third goal of the University's strategic plan is to "enrich our learning and work environment by providing an accepting, inclusive community that attracts and supports a diverse faculty, staff, and student body." This Project will contribute to that goal by:

A typical day at RISE Center is filled with laughter, learning, and friendship. Each classroom environment, activity, and learning experience is tailored to meet the individual

needs of both our traditional learners and our children with varying abilities. RISE Center is a place where all kids shine! RISE is more than just a school; we provide the foundation for an inclusive community that celebrates diversity. RISE celebrates differences, and the goal is to help each child reach their maximum potential. All staff, including teachers, nurses, and therapists strive to establish a strong sense of community that fosters learning by developing reciprocal relationships with children and their families. RISE Center provides the opportunity for teaching, research, and service for over 400 university students each year. RISE welcomes visitors and has many opportunities for volunteers, families, faculty, staff and students to get involved in the program.

The fourth goal of the University's strategic plan is to "foster an environment that will aid in the recruitment, retention, growth, and support of outstanding faculty and staff." This Project will contribute to that goal by:

Demonstrating the support and belief in the RISE Center by moving forward with this project will provide yet another example of the University investing in priority needs across all disciplines. The current playground, and the existing RISE Center will continue to be a standard across the country, but by enhancing the learning space with an accessible playscape, the RISE Center will be a facility other researchers and academicians will want to visit and replicate. This playscape will become a "best practices" for all blended learning environments for children of all levels of ability.

14. Which of the six University of Alabama system Core Principles does this project support?

Comments:

The first Core Principle is "assure that everything we do is for the purpose of improving the lives and health of the citizens of the State of Alabama."

RISE supports this principle in serving traditional learners as well children with special needs. We work not only with children but with families and community members as well across the Tuscaloosa area to improve the lives of our constituents.

The second Core Principle is "make higher education accessible and diverse, prepare our students for success, and meet the workforce needs of the State."

This project is a full overhaul of the existing playground at the RISE Center and is necessary to continue to fulfill our mission at RISE of a blended learning environment where all kids shine. The current playground is not 100% accessible for all of the children at RISE and this project will provide an opportunity for a state-of-the-art space for our children to thrive but to also be a model program for the Country when it comes to true accessibility for all levels of ability.

The third Core Principle is "be accountable for every dollar we receive while maintaining the highest standards of excellence in every program and endeavor."

Demonstrating the support and belief in the RISE Center by moving forward with this project will provide yet another example of the University investing in priority needs across all disciplines. This playground, and the existing RISE Center will continue to be a standard across the country, but by enhancing the learning space with the accessible playscape, the RISE Center will be a facility other researchers and academicians will want

to visit and replicate. This playscape will become a "best practices" for all blended learning environments for children of all levels of ability.

The fourth Core Principle is "work to lead a unified approach to improving education at every level in Alabama."

A primary purpose of RISE is to optimally prepare children for their next educational environment, and to provide support to families as they plan and prepare for the learning environments their children will encounter when they leave RISE.

The sixth Core Principle is "elevate the status, stature and influence of the University of Alabama System so that we can call on all people devoted to The University of Alabama, UAB, UAH, and UAB Health System to unite for common purposes."

RISE is a model program that is one of six similar programs across the country. We provide a state-of-the-art space for our children to thrive and have a national reputation when it comes to true accessibility for all levels of ability for preschool children.

15. What would be the immediate impact on campus programs and enrollment if this project is not approved?

Comments:

RISE will continue to serve our children of all levels of ability but without the overhaul of the playscape, the scope of our impact will continue to be limited. Having the ability to learn and grow through play alongside one another is critical in the mission of RISE and bridges the gap for families and children as they enter the next level of education.

Additional information on The RISE Center

MISSION OF RISE

- Provide exemplary services based on recommended practices for young children with diverse abilities and their families
- Offer instructional opportunities through collaboration with various academic units in higher education
- Engage in research that positively influences practices in the field of early childhood education at the local, state, and national levels
- Interface with the community through outreach activities
- Disseminate information and provide technical assistance to other community-based agencies
- Affect policy and system changes at the local, state, and national levels

RISE VALUES

- Family-centered services designed to meet the individualized needs of all children and families
- The blending of educational and therapy services within the context of a developmentally appropriate curriculum

• Preparing young children for their next educational environment.

RISE PHILOSOPHY

The program adheres to the philosophy and recommended practices of both early childhood special education and general early childhood education. The philosophy is based on the following premises:

- Services are family-centered with particular emphasis placed on the family as the primary decision-maker in each child's program.
- The assessment process is dynamic and ongoing and includes multiple procedures, information sources, and settings. Assessment is linked to instruction.
- Services are designed around an individualized plan consisting of goals and outcomes based on family's concerns, priorities, and resources; the child's strengths and needs; and expectations of the next environment.
- Services are offered, varying in intensity and structure, based on the individual and group needs of children and families.
- Children's development is promoted in all areas including gross and fine motor skills, independence, cognitive skills, social competence and emotional growth, and communication.
- Therapy services (i.e., physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, and music therapy) are provided within the context of the educational environment using an integrated approach. Therapy goals are educationally relevant and are implemented collaboratively by the therapists and teaching staff.
- The foundation of the learning environment and activities is based on general early childhood education guidelines, which are blended with recommended practices from early childhood special education.
- Specially designed instruction and curricular adaptations and accommodations are embedded in the daily activities of the classroom.
- The curricula are aligned with the mission to apply child development principles to children with diverse abilities and address all of the content areas required by the state standards that include gross motor, fine motor, social, cognitive, adaptive, science, math and social studies.
- The purpose of RISE is to provide a full spectrum of meaningful learning activities that adapted for children with special needs. This requires the careful selection of curricula that meets this criteria.
- The curriculum includes functional objectives that support children in their current environment and prepare them for more inclusive environments.
- The curriculum reflects a balance between child-initiated and teacher-supported activities.
- The program addresses the children's transitions from one classroom to another and transitions to other more inclusive educational environment.

RISE Center Playscape Renovations & Enhancements

EXISTING







RISE Center Playscape Renovations & Enhancements

LOCATION MAP

