



Budget Briefing 2025





Who We Are

Statutory Charge:

To work across state departments, organizations, and sectors toward a comprehensive and integrated early childhood system for the state.

Section 302L-2, Hawaii Revised Statutes





Vision and Mission

Vision

Every child in Hawai'i has access to high-quality early childhood development and learning experiences, which lay the foundation for lifelong well-being.

Mission

Through collaboration and partnerships, we work to establish a system that ensures a solid foundation of early childhood development and learning for Hawaii's young children (prenatal to age five), meaningful engagement and supports for their families, and a stable, competent, and supported early childhood workforce.



What We Do

Our Two Main Functions

Coordinate and improve the
early childhood system as a

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the early childhood system
as a whole

Administer the public
prekindergarten program.

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Notable measures, outcomes, and results

EOEL Lead

- ★ Opened 55 new EOEL PreK classrooms between Fall 2023 - Fall 2024
- ★ Awarded: \$259,959.33 in EC stipends to 103 participants, and recorded 12 completers
- ★ RAPID Statewide Survey Pilot (Parent Voice) project with Vermont *open program*

In Partnership

- Children's Funding Project Hawai'i Fiscal Map project for children 0-24 with ECAS
- Expanded the counseling license awarded by Chaminade University to PreK



What Does Success Look Like?

Progress (Leading Indicators) and Milestones (Lagging Indicators):

- Seats and options available to families across the islands
- Number of children enrolled in the EOEL public PreK program
- Number of children in EOEL preK that meet the priority categories in the public prekindergarten program.
- Qualifications of the early childhood workforce
- Quantity of the early childhood workforce
- Quality of the teacher student interactions of the early childhood workforce



Federal Funds

EOEL receives federal funding for 1 FTE position, for the Head Start Collaboration Office Director.

Award # 09CD004093-04-00

This role provides support to enhance strategic partnerships between Hawai'i's six local grant recipients and state and community partners to ensure the Head Start voice is included in state-level planning, decision-making, and policy development.



Possible Impacts to the Early Learning System (Loss of federal funds)

- Decreased funding for Head Start Collaboration Office (HSCO) Director
 - POSSIBILITY: EOEL to look for funding to support the HSCO Director
- Decreased funding for Early Head Start (6 weeks - 2 years) and Head Start (3-5)
 - POSSIBILITY: All Head Start children and families are within the threshold for EOEL's priority categories
- Decreased funding for Early Childhood Special Education Services
 - IDEA Part C Early Intervention (DOH)
 - IDEA Part B (DOE)
- Decreased funding for Child Care Connections Subsidy (DHS)
 - POSSIBILITY: Preschool Open Doors Subsidy

Non-General Funds

Hawaii Dental Service (HDS) Foundation Grant

- \$2,700 project funds
- 470 Toothbrushes
- 300 Regular-sized toothpastes

EOEL applied to the HDS Foundation grant and received materials for families and translated information into multiple languages.

Toothbrush kits distributed through outreach, and translated materials distributed electronically and through outreach.





EOEL Public Prekindergarten Program

Thanks to the Legislature's continued commitment:

- Now serves 3- and 4-year-olds
- EOEL opened 11 new classrooms in SY 2023-24
 - 48 EOEL Public pre-K classrooms
 - 45 HIDOE campuses
- EOEL opened 44 new classrooms in SY 2024-25
 - 92 EOEL Public pre-K classrooms
 - 74 HIDOE campuses





Process Used to Develop Budget and Prioritize Requests

❖ ACT 46, SLH 2020

- Access and opportunity challenges across the islands
- Sites that have the space capacity to accommodate an EOEL room renovation
- Sites that have supportive leadership
- Sites with identified needs
 - Schools with early childhood special education rooms on campus and no general education rooms
 - Schools that have English Language learners
 - Schools that have children in foster care
 - Schools with children experiencing unstable housing
 - Schools with families with incomes below 300% of the federal poverty level



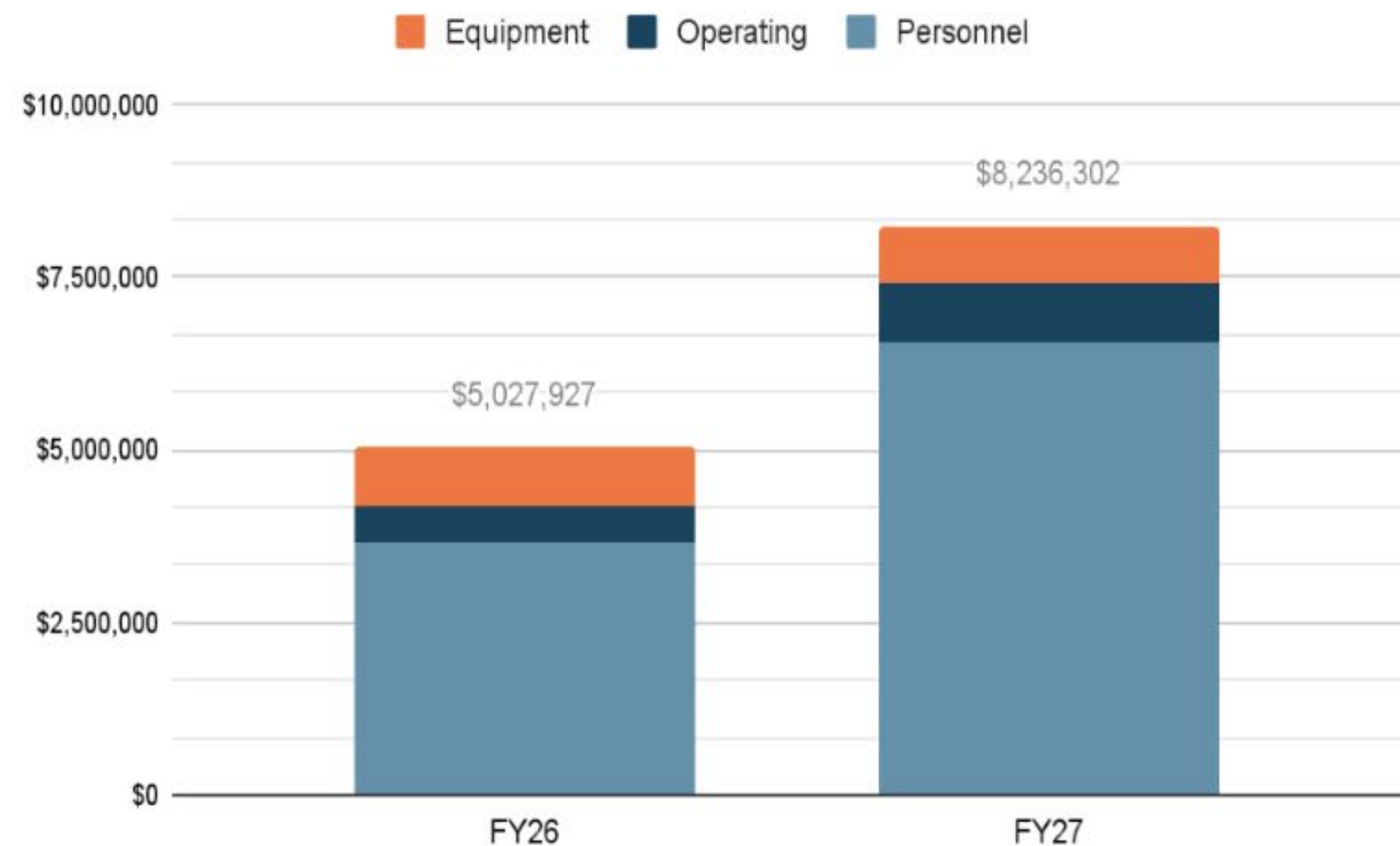
FB 2025-27 Budget Request

FY26 and FY27 Budget Requests

EOEL Public Prekindergarten (PreK) Program Expansion

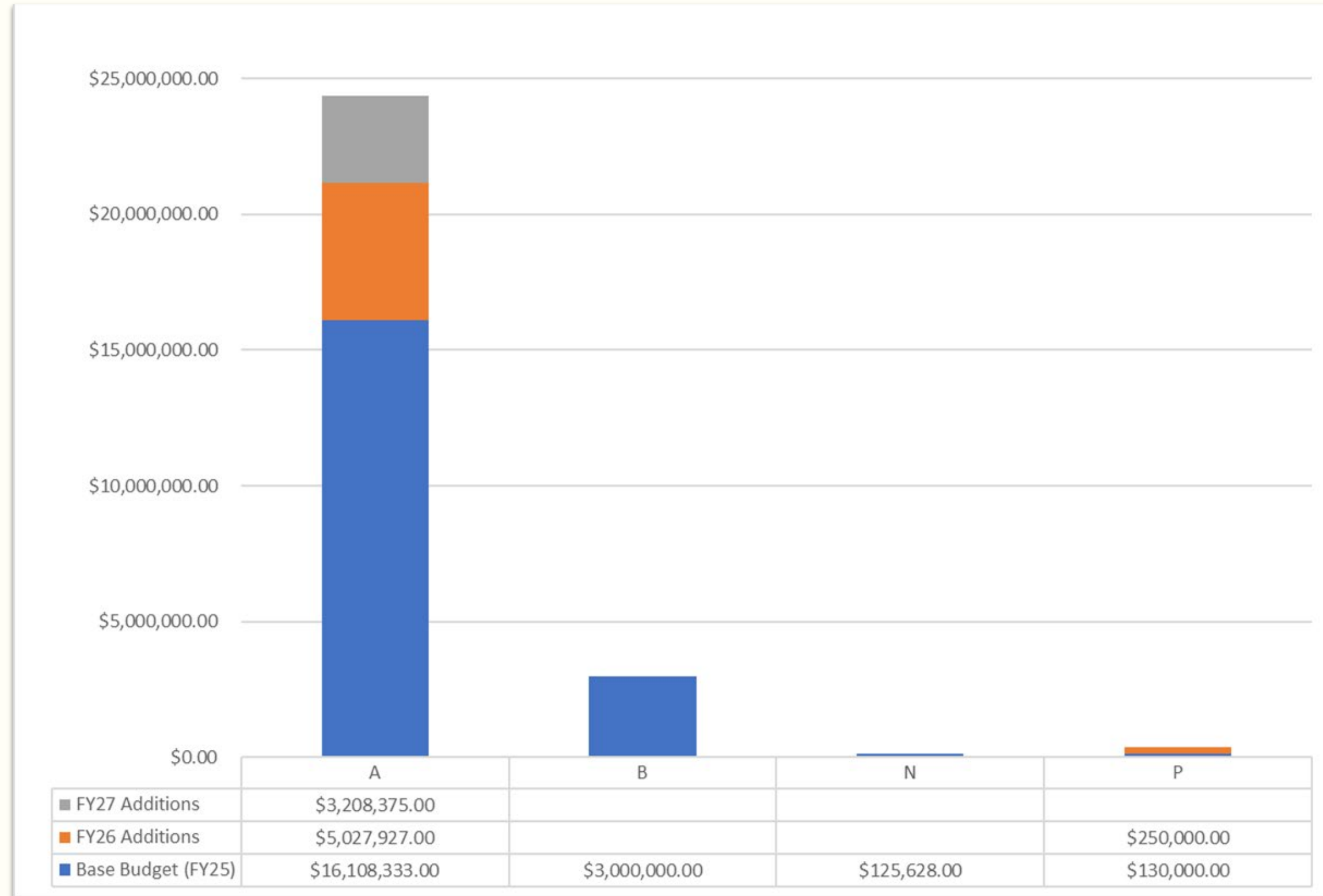
- 25 additional classrooms to be added in FY26; another 25 additional classrooms to be added in FY27 (Total of 50 additional classrooms to be added by start of School Year (SY) 27-28)
- 50 FTEs - PreK Personnel (25 PreK Teachers; 25 PreK Educational Assistants (EAs)) (added per FY) (Total of 100 FTEs added to PreK Personnel over 2 year Fiscal Biennium (FB))
- 8 FTEs - EOEL State Office Teachers
- Furniture
- Operational Costs
- Induction Costs

PreK Expansion Budget Requests

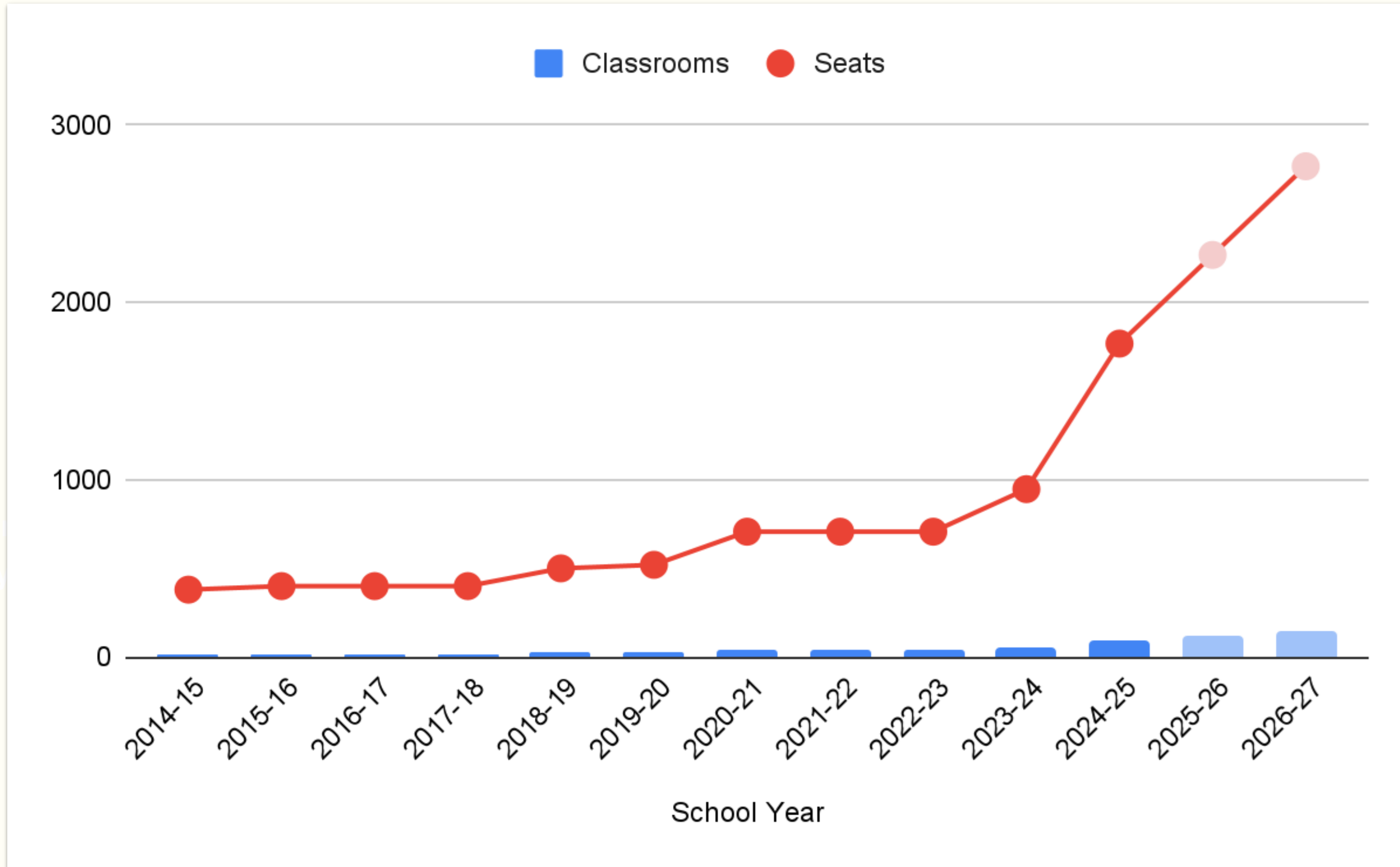




FB 2025-27 Budget Request



EOEL Public PreK Classrooms





Mahalo for making a difference by investing in early learning

