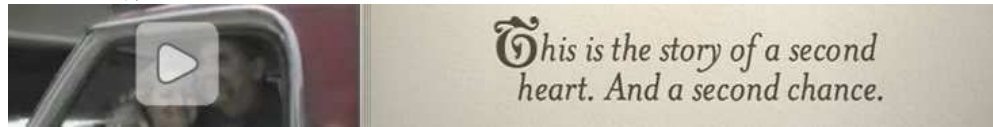


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### Pay to the order of San Francisco

San Francisco beat out several other major cities nationwide for a \$500,000 grant to rethink education, both on and off school grounds, city officials announced this week.

The C. S. Mott Foundation's three-year grant will help fund efforts to create and expand programs that include project-based learning, internships and extended school days and years, said Cynthia Guyer, executive director of the San Francisco School Alliance, which will oversee the funding and projects.

The city and school district are partners in the grant.

Margaret Brodtkin, mayorally ousted from her post as director of the Department of Children, Youth and Families, will direct the so-called New Day for Learning Initiative. Newsom apparently knew the city would get the grant when he sent Brodtkin to her new post.

The city will pick up Brodtkin's salary.

City and school officials said they were thrilled about the citywide collaboration and the cash.

"The funding provided by the Mott Foundation is just what we need to help see us through our collective efforts to make this a city where our children thrive," said Superintendent Carlos Garcia in a statement. "We all have a vested interest and shared responsibility in realizing our vision for education."

Ten cities nationwide were asked to compete for the grants. San Francisco and Providence, RI were selected based on current efforts and programs aimed at addressing stuck-in-a-rut school systems.

"Particularly in this economy, it will take partnerships between schools, communities, students, parents, elected officials, educators, business leaders, and others to realize a new vision for education in America," said An-Me Chung, program officer for the Mott Foundation, also in a statement.

In San Francisco, the grant will help fund model programs in a handful of schools.

Posted By: Jill Tucker | Email | February 04 2009 at 11:16 AM

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