As reported at the June Board meeting, we are launching “Countdown to Kindergarten” as a pilot grant program to:

• help public libraries partner with their local school districts to reach children and families before they enter school,
• provide needed resources and tools to ensure more students are reading on grade level by third grade, and
• strengthen our partnership with the State Department of Education and the State Board of Education to help with the rollout of Smarty Ants, Idaho’s new pre-K literacy initiative focused on 4-year-olds, by involving public libraries.

We anticipated funding the grants with $42,000 in LSTA and $18,00 in state T&B; however, it became clear that using both federal and state funds for the same grant program would increase the complexity of administration for the agency and create additional requirements for grantees receiving the federal funds. To streamline the grant process and encourage small libraries to apply, the Read to Me Team prefers to transfer $42,000 in state Operating budgeted for RTM Outreach to state T&B to fully fund the pilot with state funds. If this object transfer is approved, the object transfer in the federal fund approved during the June meeting will not be acted upon.

**Suggested motion:** I move that the FY2019 state general fund appropriation be adjusted by transferring $42,000 in Operating to Trustee and Benefits.

M/S __________/__________ C/F ____________________