

EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2011

10:00 AM

CAFÉ COLLEGE, 131 EL PASO

Members Present: Councilmember Ray Lopez, Chair, *District 6*
Councilmember Ivy R. Taylor, *District 2*
Councilmember Ray Saldaña, *District 4*
Councilmember Cris Medina, *District 7*
Councilmember Carlton Soules, *District 10*

Staff Present: Peter Zanoni, *Assistant City Manager*; T.C. Broadnax, *Assistant City Manager*; Gloria Hurtado, *Human Services Director*; Melody Woosley, *Human Services Assistant Director*; Edward Gonzalez, *Human Services Assistant Director*; Audrey Abed, *Head Start Administrator*; Jeanne Russell, *Office of the Mayor*; Jed Maebius, *Office of the Mayor*; Shreyah Shah, *Assistant City Attorney*; Edward Guzman, *Assistant City Attorney*; Brandon Smith, *Office of the City Clerk*

Also Present: Lloyd Verstuyft, *SWISD*; Jeanette Ball, *SWISD*; Santoro Rodriguez, *SWISD*; Bill Adkins, *SWISD*; Steve Potter, *SAEP*; Eyra Perez, *SAEP*; Gilbert Garcia, *Plaza de Armas*; Nancy Hard, *Family Service*

1. Citizens To Be Heard

No citizens were present to speak.

2. Approval of the September 13, 2011 Educational Excellence Committee Meeting

Councilmember Soules moved to approve the Minutes of the September 13, 2011 Educational Excellence Council Committee Meeting. Councilmember Saldaña seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Briefing on Southwest Independent School District (SWISD) Vision 2015

Lloyd Verstuyft, SWISD Superintendent

Lloyd Verstuyft provided an overview of the Southwest Independent School District to include the following:

- ⬇ 115 Square miles (Southwest Side of San Antonio)
- ⬇ 12, 401 Students enrolled
- ⬇ 1452 Full and Part-Time Employees (50% Teachers)
- ⬇ 18 Campuses
- ⬇ Central Administration consisting of four divisions

Bill Adkins provided a mapped description of the SWISD layout. He stated that 30% of the District was located within the City-limits and 70% of the students were transported to and from SWISD Programs.

Mr. Verstuyft spoke of the development of SWISD's Vision 2015. Dr. Jeanette Ball provided an overview of the SWISD Strategic Planning Vision 2015 final product. She stated that the Plan was printed in both English and Spanish and focused on 10 essential goals to be achieved by 2015. Mr. Verstuyft stated that SWISD was committed to ensure that every student was prepared for and attends college. He noted the goal to have SWISD become one of the top five academic performing School Districts in San Antonio.

Councilmember Soules spoke in support of the Vision 2015 Vision Strategic Plan and expressed appreciation for the short term goal approach.

Councilmember Saldaña concurred with Councilmember Soules and acknowledged the District's proactive approach.

Chairman Lopez asked of the FY 2011 Maintenance Budget and the amount of budget cuts. Mr. Verstuyft responded that the FY 2011 Budget was approximately \$85 million with budget cuts in the amount of \$4-5 million.

4. Briefing on San Antonio Education Partnership Program (SAEP) Goals & Priorities Presented by Eyra Perez, SAEP Executive Director

Eyra Perez provided an overview of the San Antonio Education Partnership Program (SAEP). She reported that the partnership was comprised of the following five leaders:

- ✦ City of San Antonio
- ✦ Corporate Sector
- ✦ Local Colleges and Universities
- ✦ School Districts
- ✦ Communities Organized for Public Service (C.O.P.S) and Metro Alliance

Ms. Perez stated that the goal of the partnership was to close the college graduation gap for San Antonio by having students graduate from high school, enroll in college and earn a college degree and/or certificate. She noted that the focus of services concentrate on guidance, resources, and tools to facilitate student college preparation, enrollment and completion. She reported that more than \$18 million has been provided in scholarships since 1989 and 3,690 college graduates have earned 4,703 degrees. She added that and in 2010-2011; SAEP supported 3,266 college students with \$1.8 million in scholarships.

In response to Councilmember Taylor, Ms. Perez confirmed that the SAEP Scholarship Program was utilized for colleges and universities in San Antonio only. She stated that there was discussion to expand the program to schools outside of San Antonio; however, the economy would not allow that option. Councilmember Taylor spoke in support of attending college outside of the city and noted the benefits of receiving an education outside of the normal surroundings. She requested further discussion regarding scholarships to schools outside of San Antonio.

At this time, the Committee addressed Item 7.

7. Briefing and possible action on Head Start Program, including approval of a Refunding Application

Presented by Gloria Hurtado, Director, Department of Human Services

Gloria Hurtado provided information on the 2010-2011 Program Information Review (PIR); Federal Review Update; and request for approval of the 2012-2013 Head Start Grant Refunding Application. She reported that the Federal follow-up visits were scheduled for next week to verify implementation of corrective action for non-compliances and that staff anticipated clearance of the non-compliances. She noted that the 2011-2012 Refunding Application was ready to be submitted on November 1, 2011.

Councilmember Taylor moved to approve the 2012-2013 Head Start Grant Refunding Application. Councilmember C. Medina seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

6. Briefing on All-American City educational component

Presented by T.C. Broadnax, Assistant City Manager

T.C. Broadnax reported that the National Civic League (NCL) recognizes ten cities/communities annually with an All-American City (AAC) Award. He stated that the designation is presented to cities that demonstrate innovative collaborative/programs to solve issues within their communities. He noted that the current challenge is designed to address the Third Grade Reading Campaign to improve the educational achievements for individuals approaching the third grade. He added that the City of San Antonio won the award in 1949, 1951, and in 1983. He stated that designation as an All-American City could provide the following benefits: Gaining national recognition; Access to grants and new resources; and Attract new employers. He provided an overview of the Third Grade Reading Campaign Goals and Priorities and the City of San Antonio's commitment to education. Mr. Broadnax noted the following next steps:

- ✚ Letter of Intent – October 14, 2011
- ✚ Award Application – March 12, 2012
- ✚ NCL Annual Conference Finalist Presentation – June 2012

5. Briefing on SA2020 Educational Initiatives and Measurement Mechanisms

Presented by Jeanne Russell, Assistant to Mayor-Education

Item will be addressed at the next meeting.

8. Consideration of items for future meetings

Councilmember Taylor requested information regarding the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC).

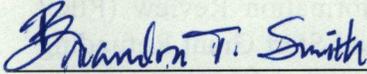
Peter Zanoni stated that that he would add the SAEP Scholarship for Out-of-State Schools discussion.

Councilmember Saldaña requested information regarding the Ambassador Program.

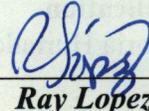
9. Adjournment

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



**Brandon T. Smith
Office of the City Clerk**



Ray Lopez, Chair