

**EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE COUNCIL COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES**

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 10, 2012**

**10:00 AM**

**MEDIA BRIEFING ROOM, CITY HALL**

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

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**Members Absent** Councilmember Carlton Soules, *District 10*

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**Staff Present:** Peter Zaroni, *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*

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**Also Present:** Dr. John M. Folks, *NISD*

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**1. Citizens To Be Heard**

No citizens were present to speak.

**2. Approval of the December 13, 2011 Educational Excellence Council Committee Meeting Minutes**

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

**3. Briefing on Northside Independent School District (NISD)**

Presented by Dr. John M. Folks, NISD Superintendent

Dr. John Folks provided an overview of Northside Independent School District (NISD) efforts. He reported that there were three key challenges facing school districts: 1) Growth; 2) Testing and Accountability; and 3) Funding. He stated that NISD has grown to approximately 97,490 students and 37 new campuses over a 10-year period. He noted that NISD was the second largest recognized school district in Texas and the largest diverse school district in the State, reflecting the demographic of the State of Texas. Mr. Folk stated that the State of Texas has failed the mission to fund public schools and that for the first time in 60 years, the public school system has not been completely funded by the Foundation School Program. He noted that NISD had to eliminate \$61.4M and 1000 positions from the district. He added that the decreased budget has resulted in an increased class size and placed a burden on many employees forced to take on additional duties. He expressed concern with the negative impact on public education caused by the State's decreased funding and over-focus on testing.

#### **4. Discussion on calendar year 2012 Educational Excellence Committee Major Policy Goals & Objectives**

Presented by Councilmember Ray Lopez, Chair, Educational Excellence Council Committee

Peter Zanoni provided an overview of the Educational Excellence Council Committee Policy Issues and Goals. He outlined the planning calendar of the 10 remaining Committee Meetings with emphasis on proposed presentations/discussions scheduled. Chairman Lopez asked Dr. Folks of any input regarding the proposed issues. Dr. Folks stated that the Committees policy goals and objectives were on target. He thanked the Committee for their work with the Head Start Program and spoke of parallel of the BrainPower Initiative and the Head Start Program. He encouraged further discussions regarding Afterschool Programs and the blending of Communities in Schools (CIS).

Councilmember Taylor entered at this time.

It was the consensus of the Committee to proceed with the proposed area of focus presented by staff and noted that additional topics will be added when necessary.

#### **5. Briefing and possible action on education funding priorities for Consolidated Funding for FY 2012 and FY 2013 Budget Cycle**

Presented by Gloria Hurtado, Director, Department of Human Services

Ms. Hurtado provided an overview of the Consolidated Funding process for the FY 2012 and FY 2013 Budget Cycle. She reported that staff recommended aligning funding categories with SA2020 target measures. She outlined the redefined ballot and provided the following timeline:

- ✦ February 2012 – B Session Meetings #1 and #2
- ✦ March 2012 – RFP released and 1<sup>st</sup> Public Hearing (CDBG, ESG, HOPWA)
- ✦ April 2012 – RFP Proposals Due
- ✦ June 2012 – 2<sup>nd</sup> City-wide Public Hearing
- ✦ August 2012 – City Council Approval and Consolidated Funding Budget Adoption
- ✦ October 2012 – Contract Begins

Ms. Hurtado stated that staff recommended approval of the Consolidated Funding Process and Ballot.

In response to Councilmember Taylor, Ms. Hurtado responded that staff was requested the Committee's endorsement to utilize SA2020 cauterizes to formulate the Consolidated Funding Ballot.

Councilmember Taylor moved to approve the proposed ballot and the inclusion of the School District After-School Challenge Funding into the competitive process. Councilmember Saldaña seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously by those present.

**6. Briefing and possible action on items related to Head Start Program**

Presented by Gloria Hurtado, Director, Department of Human Services

Ms. Hurtado reported that the City received notification from Health and Human Services on January 2, 2012 that the eight non-compliances identified during the May 2010 Federal Review were determined to be corrected. She stated that notification on determination of correction of two program deficiencies was pending. She noted that due to a deficiency in ongoing monitoring, the City will be required to compete for funding. She added that staff was in the planning stages and that proposal was being developed through a competitive process with current Service Providers. Ms. Hurtado stated that staff recommended approval of the 2010-2011 Annual Report and the 2011-2012 Governing Body and Policy Roles and Responsibilities Framework.

Councilmember moved approve the Annual Report and Governing Body and Policy Roles and Responsibilities. Councilmember seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously by those present.

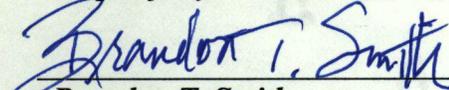
**7. Consideration of items for future meetings**

Chairman Lopez requested staff research a City of Austin program possibly entitled "IDEA" or "IDEAL" regarding city, education, community aspects.

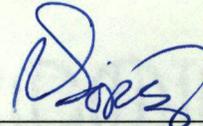
**8. Adjournment**

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 11:31 a.m.

*Respectfully Submitted,*



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



**Ray Lopez, Chair**