

EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2013

11:30 AM

PLAZA ROOM B, MUNICIPAL PLAZA BUILDING

Members Present: Councilmember Ivy Taylor, *District 2*
Councilmember Rey A. Saldaña, Chair, *District 4*
Councilmember Shirley Gonzales, *District 5*
Councilmember Joe Krier, *District 9*

Members Absent: Councilmember Cris Medina, *District 7*

Staff Present: Gloria Hurtado, *Assistant City Manager*; Melody Woosley,
Interim Director, Human Services; Mikel Brightman, *Human*
Services; Rufus Samkin, *CEO, Communities in Schools of San*
Antonio; Victor Obevoen, *Program Manager, Human Services*;
Ryan J. Cook, *Office of the City Clerk*

1. Citizens To Be Heard

No citizens were present to speak.

2. Approval of minutes of the October 15, 2013 Educational Excellence Committee Meeting

Councilmember Taylor moved to approve the Minutes of the October 15, 2013 Educational Excellence Council Committee Meeting. Councilmember Gonzales seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously by those present.

3. Briefing on Communities in Schools of San Antonio [Rufus Samkin, CEO, Communities in Schools of San Antonio]

Mr. Rufus Samkin, Communities in Schools of San Antonio, provided a briefing and update on the Communities in Schools of San Antonio. He presented the following:

- Bexar County At-Risk Rate
- We Create Positive Relationships
- We Improve Academics, Behavior and Attendance
- We Bring Community Resources into the School
- Program Components
- In Our Community
- Overall Agency Outcomes 2012-2013
- COSA Stay in School Outcomes (Students Impacted by CDBG)
- XY-Zone
- XY-Zone Outcomes
- SA2020 Alignment

Councilmember Krier inquired about the definition of an At-Risk Student. In response, Mr. Samkin stated that the Texas Education Agency provides a list of 13 Risk Indicators that define an At-Risk Student. Councilmember Krier asked if the program provides opportunities for parental engagement. Mr. Samkin replied that it does. Councilmember Krier inquired if the program is affiliated with College for All Texans or Generation Texas. Mr. Samkin replied that the program works with Generation Texas, the Trio Upward Bound Program and indicated that the program provides additional opportunities as well.

Councilmember Taylor inquired about program funding. Ms. Gloria Hurtado, Assistant City Manager, replied that the City provides \$142,500 to the Stay in School and \$101,000 to the XY-Zone Program. Councilmember Taylor asked of the schools participating in the XY-Zone Program. Mr. Samkin replied that the program is working toward nine schools, but the two most established programs are at Sam Houston High School and South San High School. Councilmember Taylor asked about mentoring. Mr. Samkin responded that mentoring opportunities are provided in two different ways. He indicated that the first was by signing up then coordinating with a Site Coordinator and the second is through the Inspire You Program. Councilmember Taylor requested additional information regarding the Trio Upward Bound Program.

Chairman Saldaña inquired about the number of schools providing the Trio Upward Bound Program. Mr. Samkin replied that there were three but would confirm same.

Councilmember Gonzales asked of program communication within the community. Mr. Samkin indicated that in the past, marketing efforts were not heavily pursued. However, that has since changed. He stated that the program is providing more public presentations, mixers and referenced the website changethepicture.org. He added that the program is reaching out to Parent Teacher Associations (PTA) and making them aware of the program.

Councilman Saldaña inquired about the CIS Site Coordinator's role and the programs growth impediments. Mr. Samkin replied that the growth obstacles are knowledge and funding. He indicated that historically, the amount of funding requested is insufficient as an investment toward a Site Coordinator. He further stated that schools provide approximately \$20,000 to fund the Site Coordinator but it costs approximately \$65,000 to establish and run a program throughout the year. He stated that since the last Legislative Session; they have asked schools to become bigger partners and would re-address funding each biennium. He stated that the Site Coordinator is an Intervention Specialist and provides one-on-one intensive counseling. Chairman Saldaña asked if quality would be maintained if CIS were to double the amount of students they are assisting. Mr. Samkin replied that they could increase the amount but would not be able to guarantee quality.

No action was required for Item 3.

4. Briefing on City of San Antonio Ambassador Program [Melody Woosley, Interim Director, Department of Human Services; Gloria Hurtado, Assistant City Manager]

Ms. Melody Woosley, provided a briefing and update of the City of San Antonio Ambassador Program. She presented the following:

- Purpose

- Program Background
- Summer 2013 Application Process
- Summer 2013 Employer Placement
- Summer 2013 Program Summary
- Summer 2014 Revised Selection Criteria
- Summer 2014 Program Timeline
- Recommendation

Councilmember Taylor asked of San Antonio Education Partnership Scholarship Program Criteria. Ms. Woosley replied that the criteria for the program has not changed and was created for students who have left the City and or State. However, the program receives a number of applications from local students. Councilmember Taylor inquired about the criteria for local student recipients. Ms. Woosley replied that in the event there are an inadequate amount of Out-of-City/State Applicants; local students who have received a Scholarship would be ranked and given precedence over an In-State Student who did not receive the scholarship. Ms. Gloria Hurtado, added that for the past two years, the program has become diluted due to referrals received from Council Offices for students attending local colleges. She further stated that the goal of the program is to encourage Out-of-City/State Students to return to the City. Councilmember Taylor stated that the program should not be limited and the City should not be funding a majority of the scholarships. Ms. Hurtado stated that any policy changes must be initiated by the Educational Excellence Council Committee.

Councilmember Krier asked of program funding. Ms. Hurtado replied that \$180,000 is provided from the General Fund. Councilmember Krier inquired about listed Non-Profit Agencies. Ms. Woosley stated that the City communicates with new and established partners to provide a mentoring environment and one-for-one student sponsorship. Councilmember Taylor suggested that the City communicate with the Inroads Internship Program. Chairman Saldaña requested a follow up of the Inroads Internship at the next Educational Excellence Council Committee Meeting.

Councilmember Taylor moved to approve said item and to forward to the full City Council. Councilmember Krier seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously by those present.

5. Briefing on the Head Start program related to: 2013-14 Head Start Policy Council Election, 2012-13 Head Start Program Child Outcomes, 2012-13 Program Information Report, and monthly program and fiscal activities
 [Melody Woosley, Interim Director, Department of Human Services; Gloria Hurtado, Assistant City Manager]

Chairman Saldaña asked Ms. Hurtado to explain the City's involvement in the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and the Head Start Program. Ms. Hurtado stated that the City is a grantee for the Federally Funded Head Start Program. She further stated that parents are required to participate in the governance and policy making of the program. She noted that a Parent Policy Council was enacted, and that the City Council has designated the Educational Excellence Council Committee as the co-governing body for the program. Councilmember Krier inquired about contracting with the Federal Government. Ms. Hurtado replied that the Federal Government funds the City that in-turn makes the City the Contractor.

Ms. Melody Woosley provided a briefing and update of the 2013-2014 Head Start Program Policy Council Election, Head Start Program Child Outcomes, 2012-2013 Program Information Report, and monthly program and fiscal activities. She presented the following:

- Purpose
- Head Start Policy Council Election
- Child Outcomes
- Program Information Report (PIR)
- Monthly Program Report (September)
- Recommendations

Councilmember Gonzales inquired about the waiting list, for the Head Start Program. Ms. Woosley replied that in addition to the waiting list other options are provided to the families. Ms. Woosley further indicated that the City is required to maintain 100% program enrollment at all times. Ms. Hurtado stated that a family can choose to stay on the waiting list while exploring additional options.

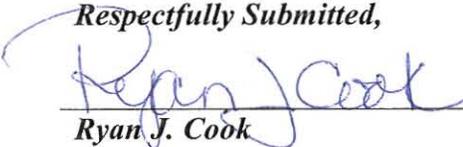
Chairman Saldaña inquired about access to the waiting list. Ms. Woosley replied that the school districts maintain their own waiting lists and that the school districts share their lists with each other. Chairman Saldaña asked about the children categorized as Homeless. Ms. Hurtado replied that the children are considered Homeless even though they may be in transitional housing or a shelter.

No action was required on Item 5.

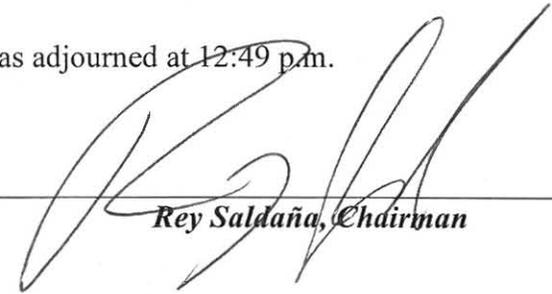
6. Adjournment

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 12:49 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Ryan J. Cook
Office of the City Clerk



Rey Saldaña, Chairman