

February 19, 2013

TO: Pasadena Unified School District Board of Education
Pasadena City Council

FROM: Brian McDonald, PUSD Academic Chief
Mercy Santoro, City of Pasadena Director of Human Services and
Recreation

SUBJECT: ADOPTION OF THE 2013-16 SCHOOL/CITY WORK PLAN

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Board of Education and Pasadena City Council adopt the proposed 2013-16 School/City Work Plan.

BACKGROUND:

The Pasadena Unified School District (PUSD) and the City of Pasadena have worked collaboratively over the years on a number of projects and programs ranging from joint-use of facilities, student transit, school security and after-school activities.

The proposed School/City Work Plan (Attachment A) significantly furthers this collaboration through a process of aligning the delivery of School and City services for the purpose of improving outcomes for students and their families. This approach furthers the School District's efforts towards the creation of Community Schools. A Community School is both a place and a set of partnerships between the school and other community resources. Its integrated focus on academics, health and social services, youth and community development and community engagement leads to improved student learning, stronger families and healthier communities.

Using public schools as hubs, Community Schools (Attachment B) bring together many partners to offer a range of supports and opportunities to children, youth, families and communities. Partners work to achieve these results: Children's developmental needs are met; students attend school consistently; students are actively involved in learning and their community; families are increasingly involved with their children's education; schools are engaged with families and communities; students succeed academically; students are healthy - physically, socially, and emotionally; students live and learn in a safe, supportive, and stable environment, and communities are desirable places to live.

The effort is also consistent with the recent work of the City's Economic Development Task Force which recognized in its final report that PUSD's steady progress in increasing test scores and the quality of its efforts to prepare students for an innovation

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economy is critical to the City's economic success. Moreover, recent discussions by the City's Public Safety Committee regarding methods to reduce incidents of violence in the community have also focused on education.

Accordingly, the School/City Work Plan is intended to focus on the following critical areas of concern:

- Focus on early interventions by investing in early child development programs to address the achievement gap before Kindergarten;
- Reduce community violence by improving access and reducing bias around mental health services to compliment existing efforts underway; and,
- Expand youth employment opportunities to align with Pathways to incentivize students to stay in school.

In pursuit of these goals, the Work Plan anticipates that the District and City will partner with many of the numerous human service agencies in the community. The Work Plan also seeks to expand upon and enhance connections with the business community.

By creating a living document that brings a multitude of initiatives together through shared strategies, the School District, City and other partners can align resources towards targeted results, making it the responsibility of the entire community to work together.

While the results and indicators in the 3-year Plan are expected to remain unchanged, the strategies and their implementation timeline are designed to serve as road map for getting the work done, but may be refined as Result Work Teams come together to focus on implementation. For example, in assessing levels of service, a work team might determine a strategy is no longer needed or could be improved. In addition, a new or emerging issue might need to be addressed immediately; therefore, timelines might be adjusted.

Many strategies in the Plan were drawn from existing initiatives; however, some align with current School District and City work plans that have been merged together. Other strategies were either developed or improved upon by the community during the outreach efforts to gain feedback on the Draft Plan. During the community engagement efforts around the Plan, more than 130 stakeholders and community members signed up to join a Result Work Team. PUSD and City staffers, along with professionals in the community, will facilitate the teams. Should the Plan be adopted, the teams would begin meeting this May.

Developing a quantifiable means of measuring success and evaluating the effort is a key component of the Plan. In this regard, School and City staff have partnered with UCLA to identify and implement an assessment tool that determines how well existing community and neighborhood resources, or the lack thereof, prepare Pasadena's young children for Kindergarten. This assessment tool is currently in place and its findings will be available later this calendar year. Using these results, the District, City and Plan

partners can better align resources and services to support families and neighborhoods, and improve conditions for learning.

Likewise, the Result Work Teams will use shared measurements (Attachment C). These measures will focus on: 1) Educational Success, 2) Good Health, 3) Economic Stability, and 4) Nurturing Parenting. Having shared measurements is an important part of evaluating work efforts collectively. These areas were selected given their connection to creating safe and supportive environments in which children achieve the best results and live free of abuse and neglect. Other methods to measure the Plan's success, as well as to develop interventions, will involve the assessment of third-grade and ninth-grade reading performance. Reading scores are a strong indicator of high school graduation and college entrance. By using these various methods of evaluation, the data will help inform and create a system-wide approach to service delivery in and out of school.

The Development of the proposed School/City Work Plan has been the subject of considerable public engagement and outreach. This item was reviewed and discussed by the Human Services Commission on November 14, 2012. School/City staff hosted a Joint Meeting with Executive Teams on September 27, 2012 and then again with frontline staff on October 26, 2012 to review and enhance the Plan. School/City staff provided an overview of the Plan to the Economic Development Task Force on November 8, 2012. And a total of 219 community members and stakeholders turned out to participate in outreach meetings with groups representing youth, child development professionals and educators, parents, clergy members, Vision 20/20 partners and community stakeholders.

Going forward, the Plan calls for consideration to be given to establishing some form of governance structure, which depending on the desires of the School Board and City Council, could range from a formal i.e., Brown Act body to a more informal working group. In either case, the make-up of such a body could vary as well to include Board Members and Council Members exclusively, or other stakeholders as well. It is anticipated that over the first year of implementation, a joint staff recommendation on governance would be developed.

ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS:

The review of the 2013-16 School/City Work Plan does not result in any new regulations, restrictions, or requirements. As such, the resolution is exempt from CEQA as it has no potential for causing an effect on the environment.

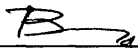
FISCAL IMPACT:

The development and implementation of the 2013-16 School/City Work Plan is not intended to require additional budgetary appropriations by the School District or City Council. Rather, the intent is to channel existing resources into an improved means of service delivery. Nonetheless, it should be recognized that considerable staff time will be devoted to this effort if it is to be successful. And PUSD and City staff, as well as

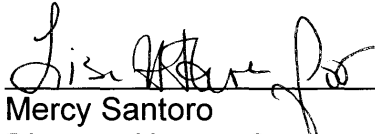
partnering agencies, will be asked to provide a cost analysis for services and staff time invested in the Plan.

Additionally, it is hoped that the unique and creative approach embodied in the School/City Work Plan may position the effort to receive financial support through grants and other fund raising activities.

Respectfully submitted,

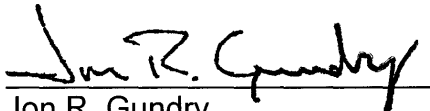


Brian McDonald, Ed.D.
PUSD Academic Chief

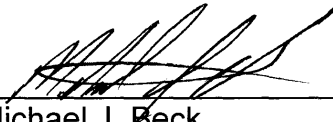


Mercy Santoro
Director, Human Services & Recreation

Approved by:



Jon R. Gundry
Superintendent



Michael J. Beck
City Manager

Attachments: A 2013-16 School/City Work Plan
B 2013-16 School/City Handout
C School/City Result Work Team Template