

**To:** Pasadena Unified School District Board of Education  
Pasadena City Council

**From:** Lila Guirguis, Lead Consultant Collaborate PASadena  
Brian Biery, Community Engagement Consultant Collaborate PASadena

**Date:** February 8, 2016

**Subject:** **Collaborate PASadena Progress Report and Update**

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**RECOMMENDATION:**

Collaborate PASadena consulting team Lila Guirguis and Brian Biery will be introduced and Leadership Team Members will provide a 2015 progress report and update on the 2016 Work Plan.

**BACKGROUND:**

**A Different Way of Doing Business**

**Collaborate PASadena** is a collaboration framework, using shared governance and an annual community report card to change how we do the work towards our shared vision of success in school and life for all kids.

Over the past several years, Collaborate PASadena has evolved dramatically, originally as a work plan and now as an exciting framework for action. Cross-sector partnerships have developed which have improved communication and stimulated innovative collaborative efforts. These positive outcomes have been catalyzed by three community engagement forums and at the subsequent working group meetings focusing on the activities of the partners. The result is greater and more effective support for the residents and families who live in our community.

These workgroups have strengthened over time and have consistent partners attending on a monthly basis. The workgroups identify new ideas and barriers to success; the Leadership Council looks for ways to solve issues by changing policy and building public will.

Our desired outcomes are:

- Better and equitable outcomes for kids
- Services aligned with the communities' needs and desires
- Reduction of duplication in services and efficient use of resources

- Increased community trust in our cities and school district
- Development of the next generation of leadership capacity for the community

***This collaboration strives for desired outcomes for all children and families through the alignment of resources, shared accountability, and meaningful participation by diverse stakeholders.***

### **Stakeholder Engagement and Representation**

Since Spring 2015, Collaborate PASadena solicited input from and recruited a diverse range of students, parents, businesses, higher education, faith-based, community and non-profit organizations. Each group helped to develop the criteria and selection process for how they would be represented on the Leadership Council and provided input for result area priorities, communication processes, and how they would like to continue participating in the future.

### **Working Groups**

Three large community forums, open to all the community, were held between May and September of 2015. Participants were asked to weigh in with answers about the conditions they wanted to see in their community. Children becoming fluent readers surfaced as a goal around which all groups felt they could rally, as well the more specific priorities outlined below. As we move forward, Working Groups will be focusing on specific action plans and indicators as well as aligning and incorporating work with existing initiatives. They will continue to focus on recruiting more members and utilize a Working Group process adapted from the Collective Impact Forum toolkit with support from the RBA online tool called "Results Scorecard," continuing this process of asking and answering questions as they take action.

### **Leadership Council**

After completing the nomination and selection process, while ensuring a broad range of stakeholder representation, together, with the elected officials of Pasadena, Altadena and Sierra Madre, there are now 15 members serving on the Collaborate PASadena Leadership Council.

### **WHAT HAS BEEN ACCOMPLISHED SINCE SPRING 2015:**

#### **Backbone Team**

- Since the Spring of 2015, the work of Collaborate PASadena has been achieved by the participants of its Working Groups and Leadership Council, organized by two quarter-time coordinators, a consultant, and assisted, when possible, by the staff of participating agencies. With a fully formed Leadership Council and next phase of Working Group action plan implementation set to begin, we are now defining what prerequisites need to be in

place for the core functions and roles of Collaborate PASadena to be the most effective and efficient, while avoiding redundancy in those efforts.

### **Community Outreach and Engagement**

- Three Collaborate PASadena community wide meetings with all work groups have been held.

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### **Diverse Stakeholders at all levels**

- Identification of Leadership Council members included youth outreach process, parent engagement process, business representative convening, faith community relationship-building (Clergy Community Coalition), nonprofit liaisons (Executive Roundtable, Partnership for Children, Youth and Families), higher education connection via City of Learning
- Alignment with the vision of the Youth Master Plan; i.e., increased support for children and youth in our community

### **Collaborative Partnership on Identifying Resources**

- Development of Youth Empowerment Service Grants in partnership with PUSD, PEF and City of Pasadena
- Application submission for grants (California Career Pathways Trust, Adult Education Block Grant, 21st Century ASSETS)

### **2015/2016 Shared Indicator: 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Reading**

- Agreement on a shared indicator of success (3<sup>rd</sup> grade reading scores)
- Support for Reading Over Pasadena – encouraging involvement of volunteers reading to children at PUSD schools

### **Early Childhood Engagement**

- Development of relationship with the Council for the Young Child
- Collaborative efforts via the Healthy Families work group in support of Peoria Place
- Sending delegates to the Early Childhood Education Water Cooler Conference to share best practices and models

## **Communications/Marketing/Outreach**

- Design of brochure and initiative score card
- Improved communication between stakeholders (Group Site, work groups, etc.)

## **WHAT'S NEXT:**

### **Expansion of work group activities**

- Continued Peoria Place development
- Further development of assisted reading programs for students (with Reading Partners)
- Connection to Community Nutrition Action Plan (CNAP) for healthy families
- Deepening relationship with Council for the Young Child
- Identification of ways to support implementation of Youth Master Plan (e.g., No Future Café)
- Implementation of community strengthening activities (Supportive Communities)
- Assistance with parent engagement efforts – continue to convene Parent Engagement Group in conjunction with PUSD staff and parents

### **Resources**

- Continue to identify joint grant application opportunities

### **Strengthen Backbone Support**

In the upcoming months, a new set of representatives for the Leadership Council will be identified. The Executive and Leadership Councils will work to better integrate the participation of Altadena and Sierra Madre as part of the Leadership group. A data measurement plan will be developed to measure outcomes and indicators, especially the progress of 3<sup>rd</sup> grade reading scores. The Executive and Leadership groups will continue to plan for the next steps and future for Collaborate PASadena.

### **RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,**

Lila Guirguis, Lead Collaborate PASadena Consultant

Brian Biery, Collaborate PASadena Community Engagement Consultant