

**EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT
CORPORATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MEETING MINUTES**

**TUESDAY, MARCH 7, 2017
2:00 PM
MUNICIPAL PLAZA BUILDING, B ROOM**

Members Present: Board Member Elaine Mendoza, Chair, *Mayoral*
Board Member Dr. Richard Middleton, *District 1*
Board Member Pamela Ray, *District 2*
Board Member Richard Perez, *District 4*
Board Member Gloria Ramirez, *District 5*
Board Member Lucy Hall, *District 6*
Board Member Frances Guzman, *District 7*
Board Member Dr. Shari Albright, Secretary, *District 8*
Board Member Dr. Gogi Dickson, *District 9*
Board Member Phillip Thomson, *District 10*

Members Absent: Board Member Major General Joe Robles, *District 3*

Staff Present: Peter Zanoni, *Deputy City Manager*; Edward Guzman, *City Attorney's Office*; Caroline Cho, *City Attorney's Office*; Sarah Baray, Ph.D., *Pre-K 4 SA Chief Executive Officer*; Paul Chapman, *Pre-K 4 SA*

Also Present: Brad Davenport, *Pre-K 4 SA*; Alfredo Martinez, *Pre-K 4 SA*; Larrisa Wilkinson, *Pre-K 4 SA*; Andrea Rodriguez, *Pre-K 4 SA*; Vickie Garza, *Pre-K 4 SA*; Sarah Perez, *Pre-K 4 SA*; Brooke Haley, *Creative Noggin*

Call To Order

Chairwoman Mendoza called the meeting to order.

1. Citizens to be Heard [Interested speakers will have 3 minutes to address Pre-K 4 SA Board on Pre-K related matters]

No citizens were present at the onset of the meeting.

2. Approval of minutes of the February 7, 2017 Early Childhood Education Municipal Development Corporation Board of Directors Meeting

Chairwoman Mendoza notified the Board of a correction to the date of the Minutes, which was corrected by Ms. Garza to read February 17, 2017.

Board Member Perez moved to approve the minutes of the February 17, 2017 Early Childhood Education Municipal Development Corporation Board of Directors Meeting. Board Member Ramirez seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously by those present.

CEO Update

3. CEO Update to include a briefing on the February 23 Grants Showcase, curriculum, operations, and research [Sarah Baray, Ph.D., Pre-K 4 SA CEO]

Dr. Baray briefed the Board on the site visit by the HEB Excellence in Education Award judges panel, which took place March 6. Dr. Baray reported Pre-K 4 SA is one of five finalists for the HEB Excellence in Education Award in the Early Childhood Center category. The winner will be announced May 7.

Dr. Baray shared photos and a summary report of the February 23 Grants Showcase, which had 140 attendees. The Showcase was held at the Doseum.

Dr. Baray provided overview of the Civic Engagement curriculum spotlight, noting the curriculum is helping children develop the knowledge, skills, and dispositions to become engaged citizens. She shared research that indicates civic engagement in early childhood leads to more informed and engaged adolescents and adults.

Dr. Baray reported that enrollment for the 2017-18 school year is going well. As of the first week in March, over 1,400 families had been accepted from the 1,700 applications received and 1,200 registration appointments have been scheduled. Northeast and Northside ISD have already reached their enrollment caps.

Dr. Baray shared an update on a potential partnership with East Central Independent School District. Members of the East Central staff visited Pre-K 4 SA and are interested in pursuing a partnership. Dr. Baray is scheduled to present to the East Central School Board at the end of March.

Dr. Baray provided a briefing on re-evaluating the Education Center transportation services for students. [Duly Noted: Slide 20, As listed, Star Shuttle references a transportation scenario and not an awarded contract vendor. A Request for Proposals will be issued competitively for transportation services and is open to other vendors].

Dr. Baray gave an update on the Family Engagement division. Based on recommendations from the recent external evaluation of the Family Engagement division, the division is being restructured to better serve students and families. This restructuring will include an Outreach and Engagement component. Parent Liaisons will be hired to work with a Family Specialist to develop strategies for connecting with parents in the community and support parents in their role as educational advocates for their children. A second aspect of the restructuring is the development of a comprehensive approach to Social Emotional Learning (SEL). The approach will include hiring a team of professionals who specialize in the social emotional development of young children to work with teachers, students, and families.

The North Center Community Open House was attended by 400 families. The other three Education Centers will have open houses in the next few weeks. Dr. Baray concluded the update with upcoming events including attending the International Women's Day Luncheon attended with district partners, the Excellence in Early Years Summit in Chicago, and the HEB in Excellence in Education Award is in May. Dr. Baray extended a formal invitation for the Board to attend Gracias San Antonio on March 30.

At this time Chairwoman Mendoza requested that although the Board had passed the Citizens to be Heard item on the agenda, the Board concur to hear a citizen who had joined the meeting late. The Board agreed to hear the citizen. Christopher Herring expressed concern with enrollment issues in his early childhood education center and requested that a greater portion of Pre-K 4 SA Competitive Grants be awarded to for-profit childcare centers.

Consent Agenda

- 4. Approving the Pre-K 4 SA 2017-18 academic calendar [Sarah Baray, Ph.D., Pre-K 4 SA CEO]**

Board Member Perez moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Board Member Middleton seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously by those present.

Individual Briefings

- 5. Briefing of qualitative awareness findings and qualitative learnings to be utilized in the development of communications strategies and messaging [Paul Chapman, Pre-K 4 SA Communications Manager]**

Mr. Chapman reported results on qualitative and quantitative studies for Pre-K 4 SA. The communications research is directional to diagnose the information to the consumers, the tone of our message, and to get the best message out to people.

Consideration of Future Meetings

- 6. The next meeting of the Board of Directors meeting is scheduled to take place on Tuesday, April 4, 2017 at 2:00 pm.**

Adjournment

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 3:41 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Elaine Mendoza, Chairperson

Vickie W. Garza, Pre-K 4 SA