

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

TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 2020

2:00 PM

NORTH EDUCATION CENTER, TRAINING ROOM 1

Members Present: Board Member Elaine Mendoza, Chair, *Mayoral*
Board Member Brandon Logan, *District 2*
Board Member Joe De La Garza, *District 3*
Board Member Richard Perez, *District 4*
Board Member Gloria Ramirez, *District 5*
Board Member Dr. Tracy Hurley, *District 6*
Board Member Dr. Shari Albright, Secretary, *District 8*
Board Member Dr. Gogi Dickson, *District 9*

Members Absent: Board Member Dr. Richard Middleton, *District 1*
Board Member Frances Guzman, *District 7*
Board Member Vacant, *District 10*

Staff Present: Sarah Baray, Ph.D., *Pre-K 4 SA Chief Executive Officer*; Edward Guzman, *City Attorney's Office*; Chelsea Mikulencak, *City Attorney's Office*; Lauren Decker-Woodrow, *Westat*;

Also Present: Brad Davenport, *Pre-K 4 SA*; Larrisa Wilkinson, *Pre-K 4 SA*; Vickie Garza, *Pre-K 4 SA*; Marivel Tinajero, *Pre-K 4 SA*; Dana Chang, *Pre-K 4 SA*; Paul Chapman, *Pre-K 4 SA*; Peter Maciel, *Pre-K 4 SA*; Daisy Castillo, *Pre-K 4 SA*; Jill Byrd, *Creative Noggin*; Amanda Davila, *Creative Noggin*; Don Barfield, *Westat*; Gay Lamey, *Westat*

Call To Order

Chairwoman Mendoza called the meeting to order.

1. Public Comments [Interested speakers will have 3 minutes to address the Pre-K 4 SA Board on Pre-K related matters]

There were no public comments to be heard.

2. Approval of minutes of the November 5, 2019, January 14, 2020, and January 28, 2020 Early Childhood Education Municipal Development Corporation Board of Directors Meetings

Board Member Logan moved to approve the minutes of the November 5, 2019, January 14, 2020, and January 28, 2020 Early Childhood Education Municipal Development Corporation Board of Directors Meeting. Board Member Dickson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously by those present.

CEO Update

3. CEO Update to include student enrollment, Early Matters, partnerships, upcoming events, and outreach and engagement [Sarah Baray, Ph.D., Pre-K 4 SA CEO]

Dr. Baray began her CEO update by introducing Daisy Castillo, Pre-K 4 SA's new Department Fiscal Administrator (DFA). She then went into a discussion about student enrollment and some of the challenges, including reaching families with historically limited access and retaining families after initial contact. To address this challenge, Pre-K 4 SA specifically designed a Spanish language commercial which Dr. Baray then played to the Board Members. She moved on to the registration calendar, noting that the application launched to the public on February 1. She reviewed the total applications received by district as of February 24, which shows that enrollment is on track with allotted slots across the four centers. A total of 1,796 applications have been received to date; 1,574 families have registered for enrollment appointments beginning April 1. Center directors are staying engaged with the accepted families through reading days, outdoor garden days, and maintaining regular communication until students begin school in August. Dr. Baray reviewed the extended day program, which is offered to families that work full time or attend school full time. The families that utilize this program across the four centers has been constant throughout the last few years.

Dr. Baray highlighted her recent trips with the Early Matters of San Antonio Committee to Tulsa and Charlotte. The group visited the George Kaiser Family Foundation to learn more about the Birth through Eight Strategy in Tulsa, Oklahoma. The committee also visited Charlotte, North Carolina to learn about Read Charlotte, an initiative that promotes third grade literacy, as well as Get Ready Guilford, which connects families to services to support children prenatal through age eight. The committee will reconvene to discuss the next steps for San Antonio later this month.

She moved on to partnership updates beginning with the Shared Services program. The participating providers include a diverse group of child development centers working together to develop a sustainable business model that raises quality for the centers and expands services. She reviewed the Shared Services Timeline, which gave a breakdown of activities the partnership has been collaborating on from January through the end of December.

Dr. Baray provided a quick update on The Nuff partnership, whose campaign launched on February 21 with HEB across 310 stores. Pre-K 4 SA is developing accompanying curriculum and staff is developing a draft policy for partnership opportunities.

She quickly covered upcoming events including the Grants Showcase on March 19, Cesar Chavez March on March 28, Family Census Week of March 30 through April 4, and Gracias Artists Reception on April 9. The 6th Annual Grants Showcase event on March 19 will recognize current grant recipients and the enhancements they have made to their programs using the grant funds. The Cesar Chavez March for Justice will take place on March 28. Pre-K 4 SA will be in attendance, along with current families. Family Census Week is scheduled to take place the week of March 30 through April 4. During Family Census Week, Pre-K 4 SA families and others in the community will be able to visit our centers to complete the census. Staff has also worked to develop curriculum around completing the Census. The Gracias Artist Reception on April 9 will take place at the San Antonio Main Public Library. The Art exhibit will be on display from April 9 through April 20, and the online auction will be April 6 through April 19.

Dr. Baray finished her CEO Update with Outreach and Engagement. She reviewed last month's engagements, including presentations to the UTSA Principal cohort and the San Antonio Hispanic Chamber of Commerce joint committee meeting. Throughout the months of March and April, Dr.

Baray will make several live television appearances to promote open enrollment. Additionally, she is planned to speak at the Early Education Policy Roundtable and Press Conference and the San Antonio Food Bank Annual Nutrition Summit. Edgewood ISD invited Dr. Baray to attend and speak at their State of the District. She will be also be representing Early Matters at the breakfast for the Education Forum and will have available seats if any board members are interested in attending. Additional upcoming speaking engagements include: the District 4 Leaders Meeting, SA 2020 Commission on Education, Alamo Kiwanis Club, and District 9 Neighborhood Alliance Meeting.

Board Members went into discussion on census curriculum.

Ms. Wilkinson entered at this time and was able to give more detail on the curriculum that will be used to engage with the students.

Board Member Perez entered the meeting at this time.

Consent Agenda

Individual Briefings

4. Staff briefing of Pre-K 4 SA program evaluations and possible Board approval of an amendment to the Westat independent evaluation contract for a total amount not to exceed \$254,148 [Sarah Baray, Ph.D., Pre-K 4 SA CEO]

Dr. Baray briefed the Board on the current state of Pre-K 4 SA program evaluations, as well as proposed changes to Westat evaluations. She reviewed previous measurements, which included student outcomes, instructional quality, family engagement, and program implementation. Because the program has evolved and matured, additional assessments are needed, including student outcomes, discontinued fidelity, added parent outcome survey, and long-term impact evaluation. She highlighted that additional assessment for Pre-K 4 SA students and Gardendale students will include literacy, oral language, mathematics, and executive function. The revised assessments will also include an evaluation of the CHEF program and healthy eating habits. CLASS, family engagement surveys, and longitudinal studies of former students will continue. TS GOLD will also continue as an internal assessment.

Board Members went into discussion regarding the program evaluations and the increased value of the contract.

Board Member Logan moved to approve the amendment to the Westat independent evaluation contract for a total amount not to exceed \$254,148. Board Member De La Garza seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously by those present.

5. Briefing of Cost-Benefit analysis by Westat [Lauren Decker-Woodrow, Ph.D., Westat Senior Study Director]

Dr. Decker-Woodrow presented Westat's report of the cost-benefit analysis. The study provides information on the costs, benefits, and returns on investment associated with the Pre-K 4 SA initiative in San Antonio. She discussed the ingredient method, which is used to estimate both costs and benefits of the program. The research methodology used was developed in conjunction with researchers at the University of Pennsylvania and Teachers College, Columbia University. The researchers worked closely with Pre-K 4 SA to gather information to assist with calculations on

total costs using year 2018. Total costs included the monetary value of benefits with a conservative approach. She concluded the study with the cost-benefit outcome of a \$1.56 return on every \$1.00 invested.

Board Members went into discussion regarding the outcomes of the cost-benefit analysis study.

Dr. Baray reiterated Dr. Decker-Woodrow, noting that we are leading the nation in terms of examining large scale initiatives and taking a conservative approach throughout the entire study.

6. Board consideration and approval of the appropriation of funds from the Pre-K 4 SA FY 2020 Adopted Budget fund balance in an amount up to \$900,000 to reimburse the City of San Antonio for costs associated with Election Services provided by the Bexar County Elections Office for the May 2, 2020 Sales and Use Tax Election [Sarah Baray, Ph.D., Pre-K 4 SA CEO]

Dr. Baray briefed the Board that the City Council voted to authorize an election to be held on May 2, 2020 for consideration of reauthorization of the 1/8 cent sales and use tax that funds Pre-K 4 SA. The City of San Antonio will pay up to \$900,000 for election services provided by the Bexar County Elections Office, and Pre-K 4 SA will reimburse. These funds would be appropriated from the Pre-K 4 SA FY 2020 fund balance. Staff recommended Board approval of the appropriation of funds to cover the cost of the election services.

Board Member De La Garza moved to approve the appropriation of funds from the Pre-K 4 SA FY 2020 Adopted Budget fund balance in an amount up to \$900,000 to reimburse the City of San Antonio for costs associated with Election Services provided by the Bexar County Elections Office for the May 2, 2020 Sales and Use Tax Election. Board Member Dickson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously by those present.

Consideration of Future Meetings

7. The Board will next convene on Tuesday, March 24, 2020 at 2:00 p.m. at the North Education Center for a budget work session.

Adjournment

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Elaine Mendoza, Chairperson

Vickie W. Garza, Pre-K 4 SA