

**EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT
CORPORATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2020
2:00 PM
VIDEOCONFERENCE**

Members Present: Board Member Elaine Mendoza, Chair, *Mayoral*
Board Member Dr. Richard Middleton, *District 1*
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 Frances Guzman, *District 7*
Board Member Dr. Gogi Dickson, *District 9*
Board Member Jan Kirby, *District 10*

Members Absent: Board Member Dr. Shari Albright, Secretary, *District 8*

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

Also Present: Vickie Garza, *Pre-K 4 SA*; Michelle Montemayor, *Pre-K 4SA*; Daisy Castillo, *Pre-K 4 SA*; Larrisa Wilkinson, *Pre-K 4 SA*; Paul Chapman, *Pre-K 4 SA*; Lillian McFarlin, *Pre-K 4 SA*; Jill Byrd, *Creative Noggin*; Amanda Davila, *Creative Noggin*; Don Barfield, *Westat*; Gay Lamey, *Westat*; Samantha Wickwire, *District 10 Council Office*

Call To Order

Chairwoman Mendoza called the meeting to order via video conferencing.

Board Member Perez joined the meeting at this time.

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 September 8, 2020 Early Childhood Education Municipal Development Corporation Board of Directors Meeting

Board member Logan moved to approve the minutes of the September 8, 2020 Early Childhood Education Municipal Development Corporation Board of Directors Meeting. Board Member Guzman seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously by those present.

CEO Update

3. CEO Update to include student enrollment, Family Reunion recap, Gracias update, promotion and outreach [Sarah Baray, Ph.D., Pre-K 4 SA CEO]

Dr. Baray began her CEO update with an update on enrollment. She highlighted the three phases that have taken place since our last meeting. Each education center will not exceed 250 students to stay at 50% capacity while keeping 10 students per classroom. Staff is conducting outreach to our remote learning families to see if they want to return to in-person learning or continue with remote learning before opening it up to other families. Some families have changed to in-person learning as they notice the safety protocols in place are working and feel comfortable bringing their child to school. She provided an update on COVID-19 protocols, noting that daily symptom and temperature checks remain in place. To date, over 50 staff members have been tested and received negative results. Mandatory face coverings and frequent hand washing continue, as well as daily sanitization of buildings. Two Pre-K 4 SA employees have tested positive for the virus, having contracted it externally. There were no close contacts at Pre-K 4 SA and no secondary cases. There have been no confirmed cases among children.

Dr. Baray mentioned the second annual family reunion took place in the Nelson Wolff Municipal Stadium parking lot, with over 1,500 children and families attended the drive through event. The event included guest appearances by City Council members and multiple activities for the children and families. The team that pulled this together made the parking lot festive and remarkable.

Dr. Baray highlighted the upcoming Gracias election, which is a component of the civic engagement curriculum Gracias San Antonio: Children Are Citizens Project. Early voting will also be part of this year's event, beginning on October 13 with the official vote on November 3. QR Codes will be used during drop off and by our remote families to capture votes. The three charities to be voted on include Big Brothers, Big Sisters of South Texas; Therapy Animals of San Antonio; and Purple Up USA for Military Families.

She continued her CEO update with Promotion and Outreach. She highlighted interviews with San Antonio Report and the San Antonio Express News. September was very busy, having already participated in the SA Talk Podcast, Pub Theology, SA Charter Moms, A Night at the Texas Academy Awards for Child Advocacy, Northside Neighborhood Organized Development, and West Chamber Board Meeting. Dr. Baray will also be part of an Instagram Live Chat with SA Socialista and SA2020 Facebook Live Chat. She will also attend a NW Democrats meeting and SA Report Ed Forum V.

Consent Agenda

Individual Briefings

4. Briefing of Family Engagement analysis by Westat [Lauren Decker-Woodrow, Ph.D., Westat Senior Study Director]

Dr. Decker-Woodrow provided an overview of the Family Engagement analysis conducted by Westat this summer. Due to Center closures as a result of COVID-19, plans for the evaluation shifted as there were no classroom observations, and no spring GOLD scores. Instead, the analysis

focused on results of the Family Engagement survey. There were over a 1,000 responses to the survey, keeping in mind some families had multiple children attend current and prior years. Questions in the survey referred to the pre-COVID experience with Pre-K 4 SA, as well as how Pre-K 4 SA has supported families throughout the pandemic. She gave a breakdown of the survey respondents, noting that 79.5% were primarily English speaking families. Dr. Decker-Woodrow reviewed the perception families have of Pre-K 4 SA and responses were in the 90 percentiles in empowerment, compassionate, and appreciation. She shared anecdotal responses from families from the survey. She reviewed further into detail on young children's basic needs, offering adults academic support at home for young children, and young children's future education.

Board Members went into discussion regarding the literacy and math portion of the survey.

Dr. Decker-Woodrow continued to review the family engagement analysis concerning the impacts of COVID-19 on Pre-K 4 SA children and families. The survey showed that the majority of parents are essential employees, and almost half experienced negative changes in household financial status as a result of COVID-19. On average, families reported almost \$200 less in income per week. Pre-COVID, families were using extended day five more hours per week and earned \$260 more a week. She continued with services and items Pre-K 4 SA provided to families, including home activities to support child development, online resources, food, and school supplies. Regarding the perception of kindergarten readiness among parents/guardians, most reported having no concerns.

Board Members went into discussion regarding the family engagement analysis.

Consideration of Future Meetings

- 5. The next meeting of the Board of Directors is scheduled to take place on Tuesday, November 10, 2020 at 2:00 p.m.**

Adjournment

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 3:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Elaine Mendoza, Chairperson

Vickie W. Garza, Pre-K 4 SA