

**EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT
CORPORATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, MARCH 2, 2021
2:00 PM
VIDEOCONFERENCE**

Members Present: Board Member Elaine Mendoza, Chair, *Mayoral*
Board Member Brandon Logan, *District 2*
Board Member Joe De La Garza, *District 3*
Board Member Gloria Ramirez, *District 5*
Board Member Dr. Tracy Hurley, *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 Jan Kirby, *District 10*

Members Absent: Board Member Dr. Richard Middleton, *District 1*
Board Member Richard Perez, *District 4*

Staff Present: Sarah Baray, Ph.D., *Pre-K 4 SA Chief Executive Officer*;
Shreya Shah, *City Attorney's Office*; Ray Rodriguez, *City Attorney's Office*; Larrisa Wilkinson, *Pre-K 4 SA*; Eryanne Taft, *Pre-K 4 SA*; Ashley White, *Thompson & Horton*; Marc Sewell, *RSM*

Also Present: Daisy Castillo, *Pre-K 4 SA*; Paul Chapman, *Pre-K 4 SA*; Brad Davenport, *Pre-K 4 SA*; Joe De La Rosa, *Pre-K 4 SA*; Vickie Garza, *Pre-K 4 SA*; Jill Byrd, *Creative Noggin*; Amanda Davila, *Creative Noggin*

Call To Order

Chairwoman Mendoza called the meeting to order via video conferencing.

- 1. Public Comments [If a member of the public would like to provide comment to the Pre-K 4 SA Board on Pre-K 4 SA related matters, please email comments to prek4sa@sanantonio.gov before 9:00 PM on the day of the meeting]**

There were no public comments to be heard.

- 2. Approval of minutes of the January 26, 2021 Early Childhood Education Municipal Development Corporation Board of Directors Meeting**

Board member Guzman moved to approve the minutes of the January 26, 2021 Early Childhood Education Municipal Development Corporation Board of Directors Meeting. Board Member Hurley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously by those present.

Board member Albright joined at this time.

CEO Update

3. CEO Update to include Student Enrollment, Gracias, partnership updates, and promotion and outreach [Sarah Baray, Ph.D., Pre-K 4 SA CEO]

Dr. Baray began her CEO update with enrollment. She highlighted the new application process enhancement of Registration Liaisons, whose objective is to guide families through the enrollment process and make it easier to navigate. A total of 1,073 applications have been received as of February 26, 2021. She gave a quick update on Gracias San Antonio, which is part of our civic engagement curriculum. This year's event will take place virtually, with a Facebook Live Art Exhibit taking place on Thursday, April 15, 2021 and the virtual auction bidding taking place from Thursday, April 15 through Friday, April 30 at midnight.

Dr. Baray moved on to partnership updates. Pre-K 4 SA and Early Matters have been working together to deliver a statewide webinar series to educators and leaders across Texas. The webinars have focused on high quality early learning during remote instruction, and maintaining quality while adhering to safety protocols. March's discussion will be on recovering Pre-K enrollment after COVID. The Early Matters San Antonio local chapter is in partnership with Texas A&M University San Antonio, Institute for School and Community Partnerships to create the first Educare Center here in San Antonio. Pre-K 4 SA is providing insight on developing model education centers. More information about this partnership will be shared in future meetings.

Dr. Baray also shared some of the 87th legislative session Early Childhood Education priorities. She has worked with groups across the state identify priorities for this session, which focus on strengthening the ECE workforce for aspiring teachers. She went on to highlight a recent groundbreaking event at South San ISD Benavides Elementary for their outdoor learning area, which was funded through the Competitive Grant program. In addition, she shared that our Professional Learning director coauthored an article in the Learning Professional publication, which will be included in the April issue. The article highlights East Central ISD's journey of continuous quality improvement through partnership with Pre-K 4 SA. She provided an update on our Edgewood ISD 1882 partnership, the Gardendale Early Learning Program, which will continue in School Year 2021-2022 with the campus transitioning to serving only Pre-K through 2nd grade. Pre-K 4 SA will continue its partnership with Madonna Center to serve 0 – 3-year olds. The formal 1882 partnership with Perales Elementary is on hold for the time being, but Pre-K 4 SA will continue to support through the Competitive Grants program.

Dr. Baray finished her update with Promotion and Outreach. She highlighted February engagements, which included an interview and virtual tour with San Antonio Report. She participated in a Facebook Live with SA Charter Moms, Children at Risk's ECE Coalition meeting, and PN-3 Collaborative meeting. In March, Dr. Baray will facilitate the third Early Matters Webinar, and speak at the ECE Virtual Advocacy Day. She highlighted a recent case study published by Results for America, which provided an in-depth analysis of ECE challenges in San Antonio, and how Pre-K 4 SA met the need. She noted that the Early Childhood Education Advocacy Day is taking place on March 9th, and invited Board members to virtually attend. She also highlighted Read Across America, and thanked guest readers who virtually read to classrooms, including Board Member Perez and Board Member Kirby. Lastly, she mentioned Board member Logan was recently featured on KSAT for the documentary he co-produced called "Living in My Skin" celebrating Black History Month.

Board members went into discussion regarding the Madonna center and creating a seamless program with them.

Individual Briefings

4. Briefing of the Pre-K 4 SA Fiscal Year Financial Audit and related reports [Marc Sewell, CPA, Partner; RSM US LLP]

Mr. Sewell gave a brief report of the Pre-K 4 SA Fiscal Year Financial Audit and related reports.

5. Briefing and Board action to approve amending the Memorandum of Agreement with the Beldon Family Foundation to increase the agreement value by \$51,000.00, bringing the total to \$76,000.00, and extending the agreement to June 30, 2023. [Larrisa Wilkinson, Pre-K 4 SA Director of Professional Learning and Program Innovation]

Ms. Wilkinson provided the briefing on the amendments to the Beldon Family Foundation MOA for support of the Teachers for Toddlers Program (T4T). She began with an overview of the Shared Services SA Alliance and how Pre-K 4 A has provided support through Competitive Grants, CQI Cohorts, and Shared Services. She moved on to highlight the Teachers 4 Toddlers program specifically, the impact of the initial funding of \$25,000 from the Beldon Family Foundation. She finished the briefing with a recommendation that the Board approve amending the Memorandum of Agreement with the Beldon Family Foundation to increase the agreement value by \$51,000, bringing the total to \$76,000, and extending the agreement to June 30, 2023.

Board members went into discussion on the program meeting the Beldon Family demands.

Board member Albright moved to approve amending the Memorandum of Agreement with the Beldon Family Foundation to increase the agreement value by \$51,000, bringing the total to \$76,000, and extending the agreement to June 30, 2023. Board Member Logan seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously by those present.

6. Briefing and Board discussion of the Pre-K 4 SA 2021-2029 Strategic Plan [Sarah Baray, Ph.D., Pre-K 4 SA CEO]

Dr. Baray gave a quick briefing to the Board of the Pre-K 4 SA 2021-2029 Strategic Plan. She reviewed the process staff engaged in to develop the strategic goals, and shared the updated five overarching goals. Next steps will be to gather additional feedback from directors and their staff. Leadership will continue to refine the supporting goals and will bring an updated Strategic Planning document to the Board in a future meeting.

7. Briefing and Board action to approve amendments to the San Antonio Early Childhood Education Municipal Development Corporation Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation, and approve an Interlocal Agreement between the Corporation and the City of San Antonio for administration of the SA Ready to Work Initiative [Ray Rodriguez, Deputy City Attorney]

Mr. Rodriguez began his briefing with the background of the corporation. He reviewed the timeline from when City Council authorized the establishment of the San Antonio Early Childhood Education Municipal Development Corporation to the recently passed sales tax initiative that funds the SA

Ready to Work program through the next four years. He reviewed the Better Jobs Act, the proposed Interlocal Agreement, and the amended bylaws and articles with the board. He finished his briefing with a staff recommendation that the Board approve the amendments to the San Antonio Early Childhood Education Municipal Development Corporation Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation, and approve an Interlocal Agreement between the Corporation and the City of San Antonio for administration of the SA Ready to Work Initiative.

Board members went into discussion regarding the timeline for SA Ready to Work Initiative.

Board member Hurley moved to approve briefing amendment to the San Antonio Early Childhood Education Municipal Development Corporation Bylaws and Article of Incorporation, and approve an Interlocal Agreement between the Corporation and the City of San Antonio for administration of the SA Ready to Work Initiative. Agenda. Board Member Logan seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously by those present.

Executive Session

- 8. Legal and contractual issues related to real estate and the Workforce Development Initiative pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071 (consultation with attorney).**

Chairwoman Mendoza recessed the San Antonio Early Childhood Education Municipal Development Corporation Board of Directors Meeting into executive session at 3:10 PM. She reconvened the meeting at 3:32 PM. There was no action taken at this time.

Consideration of Future Meetings

- 9. The next meeting of the Board of Directors is scheduled to take place on Tuesday, March 23, 2021 at 2:00 p.m. for the budget worksession.**

Adjournment

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 3:37 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Elaine Mendoza, Chairperson

Vickie W. Garza, Pre-K 4 SA