



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

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Agenda Item Number: 3.

Agenda Date: 3/3/2015

In Control: Early Childhood Education Municipal Development Corporation Board of Directors

DEPARTMENT: Pre-K 4 SA

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Kathy Bruck, CEO

SUBJECT:

Excellence & Innovation

SUMMARY:

Staff briefing of Excellence & Innovation in regards to Pre-K 4 SA North Education Center partnership with The Magik Theater for a pilot program focused on early childhood dramatic plays [Frank Villani, The Magik Theatre CEO; Tiffany Maltos, The Magik Theatre Education Coordinator]

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The Magik Theatre has expanded their educational programming to include Theatre for the Very Young (TVY). TVY programs target children under 5 years old introducing them to the power of imagination and live performance. Magik offers imaginative play classes for young students through the Academy and Camp ShowBiz programs. These classes combine creative drama games and dramatic adventures into one experience that feels as natural as child's play.

Early last year the Education Staff at The Magik Theatre began collaborating with Sandy Weser and Lesley McClellan from the Pre-K 4 SA North Education Center along with master teachers to create a professional development workshop for Pre-K educators throughout San Antonio. Through these workshops which had their initial trial run and feedback period at Pre-K 4 SA North, The Magik Theatre offers a space for educators to learn how to include theatrical, imaginative play in everyday instruction. The Theatre is in the process of creating an in-classroom story drama program for Pre-K 4 SA classrooms taking into account best practices and teacher feedback. In addition to increasing educational programming, The Magik Theatre recently premiered Wake Up Brother Bear, an interactive performance for young children and their families at The Pearl Brewery. This production originally premiered at Imagination Stage in Bethesda, Maryland as part of a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts to promote early childhood arts education. This production has been well received by the community and will tour locally and regionally to bring the experience of live theatre to

everyone big and small.