



Memorandum

TO: ALL CHILDREN ACHIEVE
COMMITTEE

FROM: Sara L. Hensley

SUBJECT: SCHOOLS/CITY COLLABORATIVE
JOINT USE AGREEMENT UPDATE

DATE: 03-24-04

Approved

Date

PURPOSE

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide an update to the All Children Achieve Committee (ACAC) regarding Schools/City Collaborative Joint Use Agreements. This report provides an update on the Schools/City Collaborative restructure, the status of the joint use agreements, and identified next steps for negotiating the joint use agreements.

BACKGROUND

In establishing working relations with San Jose school districts, the Department of Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services (PRNS) executes various types of agreements, including those that address capital development (“Capital Development agreements”) and community recreation services (“Community Recreation agreements”).

The Capital Development agreements provide funding for capital improvements, most typically for field improvements or recreational facility improvements, and address the planning, design and construction issues in addition to facility operational issues. Examples of joint use Capital Development agreements include Alum Rock Youth Center and Berryessa Youth Center. The Capital Development agreements are developed based on project-specific terms and conditions and are often unique from one agreement to the next.

The Community Recreation agreements either provide funding for the district to run after school programs and recreational programs, or allow the City to run recreational programs on school district property at low to no cost. For example, the City has entered into agreements with numerous school districts for the use of school facilities and fields, to support the San Jose After School Program, operate Smart Start Centers, and operate swim programs at school district pools. A strong effort has been made to standardize these agreements to be consistent in terms and conditions with all school districts, and to establish one agreement per each school district that covers various community recreation programs offered or funded by the City.

ANALYSIS

Restructure of Schools/City Collaborative

Created in 1997, the Schools/City Collaborative was formed by City Council and school district representatives to better coordinate programs and services between the 19 school districts. Over the last 7 years, the Collaborative developed three sub-committees to support their efforts. These included: Joint Planning/Facility Use, Funding/Legislation, and Teacher Recruitment/Retention.

Over the last year, the City and the school districts have been directly affected by the state budget deficit and addressing the budgetary challenges became the primary focus. As such, this provided the Collaborative an opportunity to re-examine the purpose of the Schools/City Collaborative. The Mayor and the Collaborative Council Liaisons met with the Superintendents in January 2004 to discuss school priorities and the future of the Collaborative. Preliminarily, the school priorities included after school programs, homework centers, safe schools, intervention programs, and crossing-guards. School Superintendents agreed to meet quarterly with the Mayor's office to discuss police-related issues and organize an education summit in the spring to re-examine the Schools/City Collaborative's priorities. The next Collaborative's quarterly meeting with the Mayor and Council Liaison's is scheduled for April 15, 2004. At that meeting, Collaborative members will determine when to hold an Education Summit and re-examine the purpose of the Schools/City Collaborative.

Joint Use Community Recreation Agreements

At the September 11, 2003 All Children Achieve meeting, staff presented the status of the Community Recreation agreements and committed to review the terms of the current agreements, returning in November 2004 with results of revised agreements. Currently agreements are in place with ten out of nineteen school districts. The following agreements are in place and expire in December 2004: Cupertino Union, Moreland, Santa Clara Unified, Berryessa Union, Alum Rock Union, East Side Union High School, Luther Burbank, Franklin McKinley, Cambrian, and Oak Grove. The following expired agreements will be reviewed in the coming months: San Jose Unified, Fremont Union High School, Orchard, Mount Pleasant, Evergreen, Campbell Union High School, Campbell Union, Union, and Morgan Hill Unified.

Historically, strong relationships between PRNS staff and school district personnel have resulted in mutually satisfactory agreements. With the number of staffing changes in both PRNS and the school districts, PRNS staff are initiating contact and establishing new working relationships with district administrators and school principals.

In this next quarter, staff will examine the various joint use Community Recreation and Capital Development agreements, to see how we can achieve greater efficiency and continuity in the development and execution of these joint use agreements. The Education Summit will also provide an opportunity to hear both City and school district priorities and obtain a recommitment from school districts on collaborative efforts with the City.

Staff will pursue the direction as established through the Education Summit and report back in November 2004.

NEXT STEPS

PRNS will work closely with the Collaborative members to address the following items as they relate to Joint Use Agreements:

System for Developing Agreements:

- Create a process for developing agreements, taking into account the unique needs of both District offices and their school sites;
- Develop a stronger collaboration and coordinated effort within PRNS' Community Services and Capital units to examine and negotiate both community recreation and capital development joint use agreements;
- Work with the City Attorney's Office to create, where possible, combined capital and community recreation agreements in conjunction with the existing facility maintenance and sports field agreements; this comprehensive approach would integrate recreation, maintenance and operations as opposed to developing three separate agreements, as has been the case in the past.

COST IMPLICATIONS

There is no cost implication associated with this memo.

COORDINATION

This report was coordinated with the City Attorney's Office.

SARA L. HENSLEY
Director of Parks, Recreation
and Neighborhood Services