



Memorandum

TO: All Children Achieve
Committee

FROM: Mayor Ron Gonzales

SUBJECT: San José's High School
Initiative

DATE: June 5, 2006

Approved

James Webb, Jr. for Mayor Gonzales Date *6/6/06*

BACKGROUND

In March 2004, the National League of Cities selected San José as one of five cities to participate in a 24-month technical assistance effort to expand options and innovations in high school education. Each of the five cities was asked to work with a local group of stakeholders including city officials, school district representatives and other community leaders to plan and implement high school improvement efforts. This high school initiative sought to foster strong learning communities by developing and sustaining reform strategies that prepare high school students – including those students most at risk of dropping out.

In November 2005, the Mayor's Office staff gave the ACA Committee an update on the progress of City's high school efforts. Since that time the Mayor's Office has continued to meet with a number of stakeholders that are involved and interested in preparing high school students for success. At the next ACA meeting, staff from the Mayor's Office will present a PowerPoint presentation that will provide:

1. an update on San José's high school graduation and dropout rates; and
2. a series of recommendations on continued City assistance to San José high schools.