

REPORT

To the Honorable Mayor and City Council
From the City Manager

June 5, 2006

Subject

Redwood City 2020 – Youth Outcomes After -School Program Evaluation

Recommendation

No action is required. Redwood City 2020 and City staff will provide Council with an update on our efforts to support improved academic, social and life skills for economically disadvantaged students through After School Programming

Background

The Redwood City 2020 collaborative brings all segments of the community together to develop a collective focus and bring resources to bear on mutual areas of concern. One of the key areas of mutual concern is finding ways to support our youth to become successful and contributing members of our community. The Parks, Recreation and Community Services (PRCS) Department and the Redwood City School District (District) agreed that the creation of after school programs for academic enrichment, life skills and recreation opportunities would be the best way we could bring our mutual expertise to bear on this issue. As a result in 2000 the PRCS and the District applied and were selected in the first round of State after school program funding for Taft School. Our partnership has continued through the development of programs serving a total of 827 students on a daily basis at Fair Oaks, Hawes, Hoover, John Gill, Kennedy, Roosevelt, Selby Lane and Taft Schools. At each of these sites at least 51% of the student population is economically disadvantaged as evidenced by their eligibility for the free or reduced lunch program. Each child participating has been recommended to the program by school personnel for additional academic and/or behavioral support. Ultimately, the most important question is has all this effort brought about the desired changes.

The simplistic answer to this question is a resounding yes. According to the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention 2006 Statistical Briefing, juveniles are most likely to engage in violent crime on school days, immediately after school hours. Their report also indicates that economically disadvantaged and minority youth, the same population served by our programs, is disproportionately represented in the juvenile justice system. On a very simplistic level, therefore, there is no question we are making a difference. As a result of our programs, we have made sure that fully one tenth of the total Redwood City School District population is in a supervised setting during these crucial after school hours; has an additional source for positive adult role modeling; broadened experience of recreational opportunities. We are not however; content to stop at this more simplistic level.

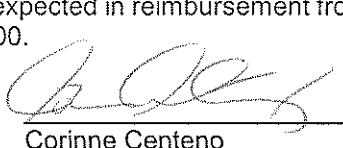
Since the inception of the program, we along with our State and Federal funding sources have set a goal of improving academic achievement of the students we serve. Representatives of the Redwood City 2020 Partnership will present the findings of the most recent evaluation of the programs at your meeting and plans for program adjustments we hope will achieve even stronger academic testing improvements.

Fiscal Impact

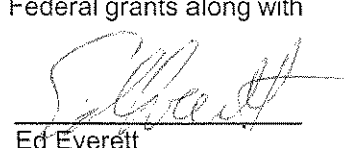
The City's 2005-06 budget shows total funding for this After School Program effort of \$1,003,054. These costs are offset by a total of \$525,000 expected in reimbursement from State and Federal grants along with program fees of approximately \$100,000.



Christopher Beth
Superintendent, Parks, Recreation
& Community Services



Corinne Centeno
Director, Parks, Recreation
& Community Services



Ed Everett
City Manager

Redwood City Community School Outcomes**LEARNING & ACHIEVEMENT**

- Academic gains for students
- Improved school attendance
- Reduced suspensions

FAMILY OUTCOMES

- Improved family functioning
- Increased parent involvement
- Better access to services

BEHAVIORAL OUTCOMES

- General improvement in behavior
- Decrease in high-risk behavior

COMMUNITY OUTCOMES

- Lower rates of violence & safer streets

Redwood City 2020 – a collaborative of City of Redwood City, Redwood City School District, Sequoia Union High School District, County of San Mateo and Stanford University - John W. Gardner Center of Youth and Their Communities – established After School Learning Centers (Centers) in eight of the 16 public elementary/middle schools. Each day over 825 children attend one of the Centers where they participate in engaging youth development and recreation activities and receive critical academic support. The Centers are located in the following schools: Fair Oaks, Hawes, Hoover (K – 8), John Gill, Kennedy Middle, Taft, Selby Lane and Roosevelt. The Centers are managed by City of Redwood City – Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department.

2005 – 2006 Program Outcomes

The Program goals for the Centers are set forth by the *After School Education and Safety Program* (ASES). The three areas of impact are: Academic; Behavior; and Attendance.

Academic*Reading and Mathematics*

Outcome: Participant students will have academic success on the CST

Indicator: 50% of Students participating in focused group instruction provided by instructional aides will demonstrate improvement in math and reading.

Attendance

Outcome: School attendance improves for students participating in a Center

Indicator: 70% of Center participants will improve their school attendance.

Outcome: Centers will operate at capacity on a regular level.

Indicator: 70% of Center participants enrolled will attend.

Student Behavior

Outcome: Students enrolled in the Centers will feel valued in the program

Indicator: 50% of the students will report that the program is satisfactory and that there is an adult that cares about them at the Center.

Outcome: Students enrolled in the Centers will indicate that the program makes a positive impact on their academics

Indicator: 50% of the students will report that the program improves their writing and reading skills.