

Supplemental Material

For

City of Sacramento

City Council
Financing Authority
Housing Authority
Redevelopment Agency

Agenda Packet

Submitted: October 3, 2008

For the Meeting of: October 7, 2008

- Additional Material
 Revised Material

TITLE: STAFF REPORT: REPORT BACK ON ATTENDANCE CENTERS FOR 2007/2008 SCHOOL YEAR

SUBJECT: SPD'S ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER, GUS VINA, REVIEWED THE REPORT AND, AS A RESULT OF SOME OF THE QUESTIONS HE POSED, PAGES 4 THROUGH 11 OF THE REPORT WERE AMENDED TO INCLUDE INFORMATION REGARDING PREVIOUS FUNDING FOR THE ATTENDANCE CENTERS AND STATISTICS WHICH WERE PENDING AT THE TIME THE REPORT WAS INITIALLY SUBMITTED. THE PORTION OF THE REPORT REGARDING RECOMMENDATIONS AND OUTCOMES WAS ALSO REVISED.

Rick Brazier for

Approved By: Rick Brazier

Contact Information:

Rick Brazier, Chief of Police, 808-0800

Please include this supplemental material in your agenda packet. This material will also be published to the City's Internet. For additional information, contact the City Clerk Department at Historic City Hall, 915 I Street, First Floor, Sacramento, CA 95814-2604, (916) 808-7200.



REPORT TO COUNCIL

City of Sacramento

915 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814-2604
www.CityofSacramento.org

Staff Report
October 7, 2008

**Honorable Mayor and
Members of the City Council**

Title: Informational/Staff Report: Attendance Centers for 2007/2008 School Year

Location/Council District: Districts 1 and 4

Recommendation: Receive and File

Contact: Darrell Fong, Captain, 808-0310 and Lyn Corbett, Youth Director, 808-8849

Presenters: Not applicable

Department: Police and Office of Youth Development

Division: Special Investigations and Office of Youth Development

Department No: 11001241 (2142) and 02001041 (0340)

Description/Analysis

Issue: The Sacramento Police Department and the Office of Youth Development worked in collaboration to provide counseling services to the Attendance Centers located at Inderkum, McClatchy, and Luther Burbank High Schools for the 2007/2008 school year. Contracts were established with EMQ Children and Family Services, Another Choice Another Chance, La Familia Counseling Center, Inc., Southeast Asian Vision for Education (S.A.V.E.), and The Dream Collective.

Policy Considerations: The purpose of the Attendance Centers was consistent with the goals of the Office of Youth Development as well as the City Council's strategic plan for public safety.

Environmental Considerations: This report concerns administrative activities that will not have a significant effect on the environment, and does not constitute a "project" as defined by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) [CEQA Guidelines Sections 15061(b)(3); 15378 (b)(2)].

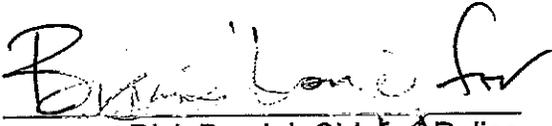
Commission/Committee Action: None

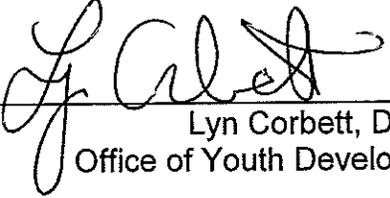
Rationale for Recommendation: Truancy is usually a symptom of other problems. The additional counseling component added to the Attendance Centers this past school year provided an opportunity to delve deeper into the issues impacting the lives of the youth who were truant.

Financial Considerations: For 2007/2008, the City council approved the partial funding for one school year by adopting Resolution No. 2007-338. This resolution provided partial financial support to operate three Attendance Centers and increased the proposed FY2007/08 operating budget by \$245,800 to include these funds in the Office of Youth Development.

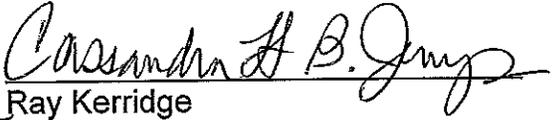
Emerging Small Business Development (ESBD): Another Choice Another Chance was certified as an Emerging/Small Business Enterprise.

Respectfully Submitted by: 
Darrell Fong, Captain

Approved by: 
Rick Brazier, Chief of Police

Approved by: 
Lyn Corbett, Director
Office of Youth Development

Recommendation Approved:


for Ray Kerridge
City Manager

Ref: COP

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Attachment 1**Background**

The Sacramento Police Department and the Office of Youth Development recognized a need for counseling services to be added to the existing Attendance Centers for the academic year 2007/2008. The three centers, located at McClatchy and Luther Burbank High Schools in the Sacramento City Unified School District and Inderkum High School in the Natomas Unified School District, contracted with La Familia Counseling Center (McClatchy), Another Choice Another Chance (Luther Burbank), and EMQ Children and Family Services (Inderkum High School). S.A.V.E and Dream Collective were also contracted to provide additional services that the primary organizations did not offer such as life skills training and bilingual services. In addition, the Department of Human Assistance provided a social worker at both the Luther Burbank and the Inderkum Centers.

For the 2006/2007 school year, there was only one official center located at Luther Burbank High School. Another Choice Another Chance, La Familia Counseling Services, and the Department of Human Assistance provided counseling on a volunteer basis and the Sacramento City Unified School District provided staffing and transportation. For 2007/2008, the City council approved the partial funding for one school year by adopting Resolution No. 2007-338. This resolution provided partial financial support to operate three Attendance Centers and increased the proposed FY2007/08 operating budget by \$245,800 to include these funds in the Office of Youth Development. This made it possible to open two additional centers located at McClatchy and Inderkum High Schools and provides counseling at all three. Natomas and Sacramento City Unified School District provided staffing and transportation for the centers and Department of Human Assistance provided social workers at two of the three centers. The funding provided by City Council supported the Community Based Organizations (CBO), La Familia Counseling Centers, Another Choice Another Chance, and EMQ Children and Family Services.

The Attendance Centers operated from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, from November 27, 2007 to May 30, 2008. During these times, law enforcement officers would contact possible truants off campus and bring them to the centers. Upon arrival, a center staff verified attendance records and other information. The student then met with one of the contracted counseling organizations assigned to the center to determine underlying issues causing the truancy. In some cases, the young person's family was contacted to encourage the student's involvement by means of an on-site conference; some instances required home visits. The counseling service, the student, and his/her family would work together to provide an effective solution.

Attachment 2

Overall Statistics

The statistics listed below are for the Attendance Centers that were located at McClatchy, Luther Burbank, and Inderkum High Schools. The Attendance Centers assessed a total of 1,732 students during the 2007/2008 school year. The breakdown per center is as follows:

- McClatchy: 750
- Luther Burbank: 502
- Inderkum: 480

The following table illustrates the frequency of students' repeated visits to the Attendance Centers. Multiple visits (second, third and fourth visits) indicate a repeating trend:

	Total Visits	Visits per Student			
		One	Two	Three	Four
SCUSD Sites					
McClatchy	750				
Burbank	502				
Combined	1,252	1,154	74	19	5
Percent Ratio	100%	92%	6%	1.5%	0.39%
NUSD Site					
Inderkum	480	443	23	13	1
Percent Ratio	100%	92%	5%	3%	0.20%

The following table illustrates changes in attendance and truancy after the implementation of the Attendance Centers. The numbers are represented in all day absence:

Reported Student Truancies and Unexcused Absences							
	2004/05	2005/06	Change in Truancy	2006/07 ¹	Change in Truancy	2007/08 ²	Change in Truancy
			2004/05 – 2005/06		2005/06 – 2006/07		2006/07 – 2007/08
SCUSD							
McClatchy	4,793	7,821	+3,028 +63%	7,424	-397 -5%	5,316	-2,108 -28%
Johnson	13,322	18,540	+5,218 +39%	18,131	-409 -2%	16,795	-1,336 -27%
Kennedy	5,551	5,809	+258 +4%	4,380	-1,429 -25%	4,253	-127 -3%
Burbank	16,175	18,978	+2,803 +17%	17,405	-1,573 -8%	14,133	-3,272 -19%
Rosemont	2,831	3,905	+1,074 +38%	5,513	+1,608 +41%	3,871	-1,642 -30%
Combined	42,672	55,053	+12,381 +29%	52,853	-2,200 -4%	44,368	-8,485 -16%
NUSD							
Inderkum ³	6,131	8,406	+2,275 +37%	10,174	+1,768 +21%	10,256	+82 +0.8%
Natomas	14,811	13,810	-1,001 -6%	12,666	-1,144 -8%	11,862	-804 -6%
Discovery ⁴	Not Applicable						
Combined	20,942	22,216	+1,274 +6%	22,840	+624 +2%	22,118	-722 -3%

¹ The Burbank Attendance Center opened in 2006/07

² The Inderkum Attendance Center opened in 2007/08

³ Inderkum High School opened in 2004 with only a freshmen and sophomore class; by 2005, Inderkum had a freshmen, sophomore and junior class; and in 2006, it housed all grades from freshmen to seniors

⁴ Discovery High School is an Independent Studies Charter School that does not track/report truancies or unexcused absences

According to the previous chart, SCUSD experienced a decrease in truancy between the 2006/2007 and 2007/2008 school years, which indicates that approximately \$400,492 in district funds were made available. Comparatively, NUSD received approximately \$34,078 in district funds for its decrease in truancy during that same time period. These figures are calculated using the average rate of \$47.20 per student per day of attendance. **With the reduction of truants in both districts, allotment from the state was increased by approximately \$434,570.**

Attachment 3**Contracted Organization Statistics**

Community Based Organization	Students Assessed	Home Visits	Male	Female
La Familia Counseling Center	216	20	110	106
Another Choice Another Chance	170	2	105	65
EMQ Child and Family Services	161	68	116	45
Dream Collective	30	N/A	20	10
Southeast Asian Vision for Education (SAVE) ¹	N/A			

¹Services offered by SAVE were not utilized during the 2007/2008 school year
Dream Collective did not conduct home visits as part of their counseling sessions.

Success Stories

The following represents one of many success stories from each of the Attendance Centers:

La Familia Success Story (McClatchy High School):

Prior to the Attendance Center connection, one student had dabbled in minor gang activity and had poor family relationships. After being seen at the Attendance Center and receiving assistance from La Familia, the student's attendance, attitude, and behavior improved. The student continues to receive counseling and has minimized gang affiliation. Currently, the student is participating in a summer employment Boot Camp. This is a week long pre-employment camp that offers classes in dressing for success, resume writing, and interviewing. Once this student completes the camp, he/she will receive employment assistance in finding a summer job. The counselor noted that student's overall attitude and family relationships have improved.

Another Choice Another Chance Success Story (Luther Burbank High School):

A young man was brought into the Burbank Center. This student was missing many days of school and had poor grades. He told the counselor that he would like to one day work in a Barber Shop. The staff worked to improve the attendance and when a certain goal was attained, the student was introduced to a local barber who allowed him to volunteer time on the weekends at the shop. A month later, this particular student showed no additional center visits, improved grades, and an overall improvement in attitude.

EMQ Success Story (Inderkum High School):

One student was dealing with the reality that his mother was going to go to jail. This student was averaging approximately four whole days of absences per week despite receiving both personal and academic counseling. On one hand, this student was embarrassed that his mother was going to jail and on the other hand, he was scared that he would lose his mother for a long time. Once the counselor identified what was bothering the student and why the student was distracted and uninterested in school, the counselor, student, and mother all worked together to come up with a reasonable solution and agreed that an Independent Studies program would keep the child interested in school.

After enrolling in the Independent Studies Program, the student's attendance has been perfect – attending twice a week to meet with his teacher. The grades are all A's, B's, C's, and one D where before they were all F's. Although the student is still worried about his mother, he knows that staying in school is the right thing to do and the Independent Studies program saved the student from any embarrassment or teasing that may have been received if the student had attended regular school.

Two additional community based organizations were hired for the centers to provide additional services that were unique in nature. Dream Collective conducted life-skills classes and Southeast Asian Vision for Education (S.A.V.E) specialized in Asian culture and language skills.

Dream Collective Success Story (Natomas and Inderkum High School)

Dream Collective was chosen because of their ability to provide a different service unlike the other CBOs. Their program consisted of three 6-hour classes that focused on study habits, spelling techniques, grammar, and self-esteem, morals, and attitude. Students are given a pre-test in the first class for an evaluation. The second class focused on the improvement of the subjects and the final class consisted of a post-test.

Dream Collected presented a total of three class at Natomas and two classes at Inderkum High Schools. They were unable to complete the final testing session at Inderkum due to end of the year school testing.

The following scores were taken from the over all improvement category. This category takes into account the criteria and rates the students on how well they received and utilized the information. Low scores were given to students who displayed little to no development, while high scores were given to those who appeared more goal oriented, focused, and aware of the consequences/rewards of their decisions as a result of being a part of this program.

Low scores were recorded below as those that received one and two and high scores were those that received four or five with five being the highest:

Overall Improvement:

Low Scores: approximately 30%
High Scores: approximately 33%
Most of the scores fell in the middle (three): approximately 37%

S.A.V.E. was not utilized at the centers.

Attachment 4

Impact on Neighboring Communities

Per Sacramento Police Department's Crime Analysis Unit, the following trends were seen in crime patterns surrounding a half-mile of each school¹:

		459	459-Autos	594	10851	484	Total	Year-to-Year Change
McClatchy	2006¹	7	3	3	1	12	26	
	2007	6	4	1	4	13	28	2
	2008	5	4	0	1	10	20	-8
Burbank	2006	10	8	5	13	23	59	
	2007	10	3	9	16	13	51	-8
	2008	9	4	3	10	19	45	-6
Kennedy	2006	8	1	3	1	12	25	
	2007	6	0	1	1	14	22	-3
	2008	3	3	1	0	6	13	-9
Johnson	2006	9	0	2	1	6	18	
	2007	4	1	6	2	12	25	-7
	2008	13	5	0	0	7	25	0
Inderkum	2006	3	9	0	4	13	29	
	2007	10	7	2	4	22	45	+16
	2008	8	6	1	2	17	34	-11

459 PC: Business Burglary
 459-Autos PC: Vehicle Burglary
 594 PC: Vandalism
 10851 VC: Stolen Vehicle
 484 PC: Petty Theft

¹ All years compare January 1 – August 31 tracking reported crimes between the 0900 hours and 1500 hrs

² Crime Statistics surround NUSD schools are pending

Attachment 5**Recommendations and Lessons Learned**

1. Over half of the parents and families refused the offer for further counseling. Some reasons for declining were that the family and students were not interested in the services suggested or that the family felt that the services were not needed. When the services were accepted, they were highly effective in approving student's attendance.

An effort to educate the parents and families on the benefits of counseling were recommended. These classes are being planned for the future.

2. School Resources Officers (SRO) (both contract and non-contract) are an integral part of this process, bringing in the majority of the students to the centers during the school year. Their dedication to resolving the truancy issue has proved to be beneficial. The officers build a working partnership with the center staff. In one case, a student told center staff that since the center opened, the truant students were starting to congregate at Downtown Plaza. In response, the SROs organized one of several truancy sweeps to address this issue.

One full time SRO cost approximately \$114,376 per year. Three hours per day is spent at the Attendance Center therefore their costs would be approximately \$38,125. Their benefit is not only vital for the department, but for the community and schools.

3. Transportation was a challenge for many students. Many times, success depended upon the services coming to the child. For instance, in the case where the student might benefit from an employment camp or a job fair, the parents did not always have adequate transportation available for the student to participate. The student would ultimately miss out on the opportunity if transportation could not be found.

Bus passes are being provided by one of the new CBOs and other transportation options are being discussed.

4. Tutoring and mentoring issues would be recommended for both students and parents in order to educate them on the importance of education.

Some classes are in the works for the future.

5. Statistical collection was sporadic and inconsistent.

One intake form was developed that would be used by all centers and one statistical collection form was developed to be used for all CBOs for next year's Attendance Center project. In addition, monthly statistical reports will be required for all involved parties.