



REPORT TO COUNCIL

City of Sacramento

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

Staff Report
October 13, 2009

Honorable Mayor and
Members of the City Council

Title: Staff Report: Attendance Centers for 2008/2009 School Year

Location/Council District: Citywide

Recommendation: Receive and File

Contact: Lyn Corbett, 808-8849 and Lieutenant William Champion, 808-0312

Presenters: Lyn Corbett, Office of Youth Development Director, Lieutenant William Champion, Sacramento Police Department, and Community-Based Organization representatives, and youth participants

Department: City Manager's Office and Sacramento Police Department

Division: Office of Youth Development and Special Investigations

Department No: 02001041 and 11001241

Description/Analysis

Issue: The Office of Youth Development, the Sacramento Police Department, Department of Human Assistance, Sacramento City Unified School District and Natomas Unified School District continue their collaborative work to address truancy and improve school attendance. Three attendance centers provided services at Luther Burbank, McClatchy, and Inderkum High Schools for the 2008/2009 school year. Contracts were established with Another Choice Another Chance, La Familia Inc., and Strategies for Change.

Policy Considerations: The purpose of the Attendance Centers is 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)].

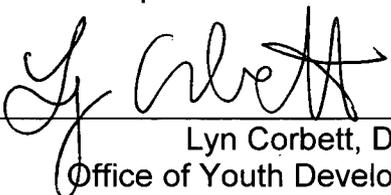
Sustainability Considerations: Not Applicable

Commission/Committee Action: Not Applicable

Rationale for Recommendation: Not Applicable

Financial Considerations: For 2008/2009, the United States Department of Justice's Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention FY2008 Earmarks Program granted the City of Sacramento \$268,305 for the operation of the Attendance Centers.

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

Respectfully Submitted by: 
Lyn Corbett, Director
Office of Youth Development

Approved by: 
Cassandra H.B. Jennings, Assistant City Manager

Recommendation Approved:


Ray Kerridge
City Manager

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Attachment 1**Background**

In 2006, Sacramento Area Congregations Together (ACT) approached the City Council, the Sacramento Police Department, and the Department of Parks and Recreation with a desire to find an alternative way to address truancy in the City of Sacramento. The holistic approach would focus on truancy as a symptom to other problems such as gang involvement, criminal activity, lack of school success, and other personal issues. The Attendance Center Project was launched at Luther Burbank High School in the Sacramento City Unified School District (SCUSD) with Another Choice Another Chance, La Familia, and the Department of Human Assistance (DHA) providing counseling on a volunteer basis and the SCUSD supplying staffing and transportation.

In 2007/2008, the City Council approved funding for the project by adopting Resolution No. 2007-338. This funding made it possible to open two additional centers located at McClatchy High School in the SCUSD and Inderkum High School in the Natomas Unified School District (NUSD). Contracted counseling services were provided at all three centers. Natomas Unified and SCUSD provided staffing and transportation for the centers and the DHA provided social workers at two of the three centers.

The project continued in the 2008/2009 academic year with three centers still remaining at McClatchy, Luther Burbank, and Inderkum High Schools. The centers operated Monday through Friday from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., from October 13, 2008 to May 29, 2009. During these hours, law enforcement officers contacted possible truants off campus and brought them to the centers. Upon arrival, Attendance Center staff verified attendance records and other information. The counseling component, which is a vital asset to the Attendance Center process, continued with the three centers contracting with La Familia (McClatchy), Another Choice Another Chance (Luther Burbank), and Strategies for Change (Inderkum High School). In addition, the Department of Human Assistance provides a social worker at Luther Burbank and assistance at the other two centers.

The contracted counselors meet with the student 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 worked together to provide an effective solution.

Funding for the 2008/09 academic year was made possible with an earmark from Congresswoman Doris Matsui and the US Department of Justice's Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. The grant award of \$268,305 provided contracted counseling services to the centers, reimbursement for a portion of DHA's specialized services, as well as assistance in quarterly meetings, staff training, and transportation.

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 1,222 students during the 2008/2009 school year. While most of the students were enrolled at either the Sacramento City Unified School District (SCUSD) or Natomas Unified School District (NUSD), 91 or 7.4% came from schools outside of the two districts.

The breakdown per center is as follows:

- McClatchy: 564
- Luther Burbank: 257
- Inderkum: 401
- 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	Five
SCUSD Sites						
McClatchy	564	497	44	18	5	0
Burbank	257	245	12	0	0	0
Combined	821	742	56	18	5	0
Percent	100%	90%	7%	2%	1%	0
NUSD Site						
Inderkum	401	345	33	12	6	5
Percent	100%	84%	11%	3%	1%	1%

Attachment 3**Additional Attendance Center Statistics**

The following charts are broken down based on the total number of students brought into all three centers (1,222):

Ethnicity Breakdown		
African American	451	37%
American Indian/Alaska Native	12	1%
Asian	109	9%
Caucasian/White	116	10%
Declined to State	22	2%
Filipino	8	1%
Hispanic	483	39%
Multiple	6	1%
Pacific Islander	15	1%

Gender Breakdown	
Female	419
Male	803

Home Visits	
La Familia (McClatchy)	137
Another Choice Another Chance (Luther Burbank)	51
Strategies for Change (Inderkum)	13*

*Reflects the amount of cases and not amount of home visits.

Students by Grade Enrollment		
4 th Grade	2	0.16%
6 th Grade	8	0.65%
7 th Grade	50	5%
8 th Grade	114	9%
9 th Grade	357	29%
10 th Grade	313	26%
11 th Grade	232	19%
12 th Grade	120	10%
Unknown	26	2%
Not Enrolled – not counted in overall grade because a child might or might not know their grade so could be already included within the chart.	42	3%

Attachment 4

The following table illustrates changes in attendance and truancy after the implementation of the Attendance Centers. The numbers are represented in full day absences unless otherwise noted:

Reported Unexcused Absences									
			Change in Truancy		Change in Truancy		Change in Truancy		Change in Truancy
	2004/05	2005/06	2004/05 -	2006/07 ¹	2005/06 -	2007/08 ²	2006/07 -	2008/09	2007/08 -
			2005/06		2006/07		2007/08		2008/09
SCUSD									
McClatchy	4,793	7,821	3,028 63%	7,424	-397 -5%	5,316	-2,108 -28%	5,185	-131 -3%
Johnson	13,322	18,540	5,218 39%	18,131	-409 -2%	16,795	-1,336 -27%	15,943	-852 -5%
Kennedy	5,551	5,809	258 4%	4,380	-1,429 -25%	4,253	-127 -3%	4,115	138 3%
Burbank	16,175	18,978	2,803 17%	17,405	-1,573 -8%	14,133	-3,272 -19%	13,562	-571 -4%
Rosemont	2,831	3,905	1,074 38%	5,513	1,608 41%	3,871	-1,642 -30%	3,762	109 -3%
Combined	42,672	55,053	12,381 29%	52,853	-2,200 -4%	44,368	-8,485 -16%	42,567	-1801 -4%
NUSD									
Inderkum ³	6,131	8,406	2,275 37%	10,174	1,768 21%	10,256	82 0.80%	11,325	1,069 9%
Natomas	14,811	13,810	-1,001 -6%	12,666	-1,144 -8%	11,862	-804 -6%	12,689	827 6%
Combined	20,942	22,216	1,274 6%	22,840	624 2%	22,118	-722 -3%	24,014	1896 8%

¹The Burbank Attendance Center opened in 2006/2007

²The Inderkum Attendance Center opened in 2007/08

³Inderkum 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

Attachment 5

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 school:

459 PC: Business Burglary
459-Autos PC: Vehicle Burglary

594 PC: Vandalism
10851 VC: Stolen Vehicle

484 PC: Petty Theft

		459	459-Autos	594	10851	484	Total	Year-to-Year Change
McClatchy	2006	7	3	3	1	12	26	
	2007	6	4	1	4	13	28	2
	2008	5	4	0	1	10	20	-8
	2009	0	2	5	0	12	19	-1
Burbank	2006	10	8	5	13	23	59	
	2007	10	3	9	16	13	51	-8
	2008	9	4	3	10	19	45	-6
	2009	5	4	11	6	10	36	-9
Kennedy	2006	8	1	3	1	12	25	
	2007	6	0	1	1	14	22	-3
	2008	3	3	1	0	6	13	-9
	2009	0	4	1	1	3	9	-4
Johnson	2006	9	0	2	1	6	18	
	2007	4	1	6	2	12	25	-7
	2008	13	5	0	0	7	25	0
	2009	1	2	3	2	6	14	-11
Inderkum	2006	3	9	0	4	13	29	
	2007	10	7	2	4	22	45	+16
	2008	8	6	1	2	17	34	-11
	2009	3	4	2	3	20	32	-2

All years compare January 1 – August 31 with the exception of 2009 which covered through July 31, 2009. All crimes were tracked between the hours of 0900 and 1500.

Attachment 6

Success Stories

The following represents some of the many success stories from each of the Attendance Centers and the Department of Human Assistance:

La Familia Success Story (McClatchy High School):

A.C. was a junior at American Legion High School. On October 26, 2008, he was brought into the McClatchy Attendance Center. A.C. was having behavioral, academic, and attendance issues. The La Familia Counselor met with A.C. and talked about ways that they could work on all of these obstacles. A.C.'s parents were contacted to assist in the process and A.C.'s progress was monitored.

In January 2009, it was noticed that A.C.'s attendance had improved by 80% and the student had not had anymore behavioral issues. Furthermore, the student had improved academically and had obtained several credits needed to graduate.

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

At the beginning of school, "John" was referred to the center by one of the hall monitors at Luther Burbank. "John" was late everyday or could not get to school due to lack of transportation. The lack of participation in school obviously reflected in his grades. A counselor from Another Choice Another Chance stepped in to help "John." With assistance from his family, they supplied bus passes and worked to obtain more stable transportation, as well as addressing issues at home such as substance abuse and financial hardships. From November 2008 until the end of May 2009, "John" has not missed a day of school. There is no doubt that he will be participating in the graduation ceremony in 2010!

The following chart demonstrates "John's" grades. Note the overall grade point obtained.

			Overall Grade Point Obtained (all classes)
Year	Classes	Grades	
2006	Science	C	1.75
	Geology	F	
	Spanish	D	
	Computer	D	
2007	English	D	2
	Art	B	
	Forensics	A	
	P.E.	A	
	Geology	B	
	Information Technology	F	
2008	English	C	2.17
	Beg, Architect	C	
	Algebra	B	
	P.E.	A	
	Biology	F	
	World History	C	
2009	English	B	3
	Geometry	C	
	P.E.	A	
	Biotech	D	
	Intro. Social Justice	A	
	US History	B	
	Computer	A	

Strategies for Change (Inderkum High School):

There was one particular young man whom we will call "Tom." When "Tom" was a sophomore at Inderkum High School, he became distracted with his friends. "Tom's" attendance and grades started to suffer. "Tom," who was a natural born athlete, discontinued sports. His family was losing faith that he would finish school. "Tom" started running away. The police were summoned to his home on many occasions.

"Tom" was finally picked up and brought to the Attendance Center in February 2008. A Department of Human Assistance social worker was the first to work with "Tom". The counselor provided support for the young man and his family. "Tom's" family decided to move him to the Bay Area with the intent that he would succeed in a better environment. They returned in August 2008. Once again, he started to miss school.

Attendance Center staff invested many hours with "Tom" throughout his junior year, including phone conversations, home visits, meetings, rides home, and help with alternative education strategies to help "Tom" improve his attendance and grades. His physical and mental health was discussed as well as different options to correct his behavior. "Tom" finished his junior year with a 3.16 GPA, and he has not been absent more than five days for the entire year.

"Tom" is employed now, has his driver's license, plays soccer with a community adult league, and is looking forward to completing his senior year with a high school diploma. The Attendance Center will continue to follow "Tom's" progress through June 2010!

The Department of Human Assistance (DHA):

This organization has been a very important partner in the Attendance Center Project. Not only have they provided a social worker at Luther Burbank, but assistance to the McClatchy and Natomas Centers. DHA specifically deals with students and families who are assigned to Cal Works. This program provides temporary financial assistance and employment focused services to families with minor children who have income and property below the state maximum limits for their family size. At Luther Burbank, 47 (18%) of the students were active Cal Works cases. Of the 47, 25 (53%) were contacted and of those 13 (52%), improved their attendance. In addition, below are a few success stories.

S.X. had poor attendance for nearly one year. His parents were frustrated because when they would drop S.X. off at school each day, he would leave campus and hang out with friends. His luck ran out, he was picked up as truant and was brought into the Attendance Center. After DHA met with S.X. and his parents, it was determined that counseling would be the best intervention at this time. Since making the counseling referral, S.X. has been attending school regularly and is participating in counseling. He still hangs out with his friends, but now after school.

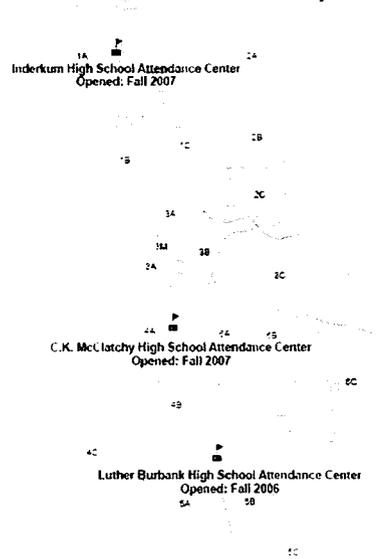
Attendance Centers 2008/2009 Academic Year

City Council Report:



Map of Attendance Centers

City of Sacramento





Partners of the Attendance Centers

- Office of Youth Development
- Sacramento Police Department
- Sacramento City Unified School District
- Natomas Unified School District
- Department of Human Assistance
- Community Based Organizations



Students Delivered to Attendance Centers 2008/2009 School Year

	Total Visits	Visits per Student				
		One	Two	Three	Four	Five
SCUSD Sites						
McClatchy	564	497	44	18	5	0
Burbank	257	245	12	0	0	0
Combined	821	742	56	18	5	0
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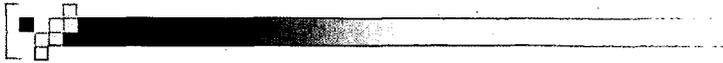
Reported Unexcused Absences

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	2004/05 – 2005/06	2005/06 – 2006/07	2006/07 – 2007/08	2007/08 – 2008/09
SCUSD				
McClatchy	63%	-5%	-28%	-3%
Johnson	39%	-2%	-27%	-5%
Kennedy	4%	-25%	-3%	3%
Burbank	17%	-8%	-19%	-4%
Rosemont	38%	41%	-30%	-3%
Combined	29%	-4%	-16%	-4%
NUSD				
Inderkum ³	37%	21%	0.80%	9%
Natomas	-6%	-8%	-6%	6%
Combined	6%	2%	-3%	8%

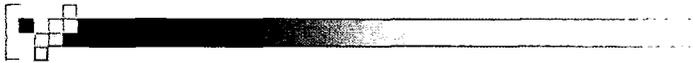
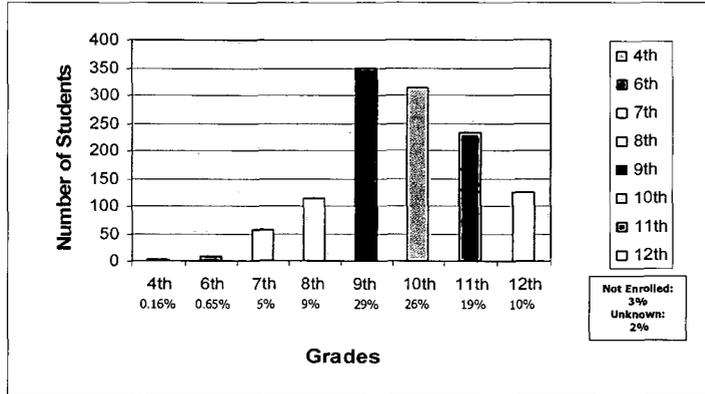


Impact on Neighboring Communities

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Burbank	2006	10	8	5	13	23	59	
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	2009	5	4	11	6	10	36	-9
Kennedy	2006	8	1	3	1	12	25	
	2007	6	0	1	1	14	22	-3
	2008	3	3	1	0	6	13	-9
	2009	0	4	1	1	3	9	-4
Johnson	2006	9	0	2	1	8	18	
	2007	4	1	6	2	12	25	-7
	2008	13	5	0	0	7	25	0
	2009	1	2	3	2	6	14	-11
Inderkum	2006	3	9	0	4	13	29	
	2007	10	7	2	4	22	45	16
	2008	8	6	1	2	17	34	-11
	2009	3	4	2	3	20	32	-2



Students by Grade Enrollment



Schools Effected

