



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION REPORT

AGENDA DATE: December 15, 2010

TO: Parks and Recreation Commission

FROM: Sports and Youth Activities, Recreation Division

SUBJECT: After School Programs

RECOMMENDATION: That the Commission receives a report on the Parks and Recreation Departments' after school programs.

DISCUSSION:

We're better together. That's the simple concept of collaborative school-based partnership programs that take place every day after school. It's easy to imagine a bright and productive future for our children when the City, Santa Barbara School Districts (SBSD), and our community partner agencies, collaboratively fund after school programs. The Parks and Recreation Department has been partnering with the District to offer afterschool programs for over 20 years. Although funding commitments have varied over the years related to fiscal challenges, the City Council and Board of Education remain committed to providing high quality on-campus after school care for as many students as possible.

Recreation Afterschool Program (RAP): The Department's RAP program provides recreation services, and homework help at five SBSBD elementary school sites. Creative special and timely activities enhance the basic activities offered. Staff is well-trained, hard-working, and work closely with Principals to provide a safe and interesting program. To reach as many students as possible, the fee-based program is supported by ample scholarships and Inclusion support.

Afterschool Opportunities for Kids (AOK) and After School Education and Safety (ASES): In 1999 the Santa Barbara School Districts applied to the State Department of Education and received a grant to provide tutoring and educational activities in elementary after school programs. Priority was given to schools where 50 percent of the students qualified for free and reduced lunch (Title 1 schools) and there was a high incidence of students performing below grade level. Under this funding, at five SBSBD elementary schools, goals were aligned with the school curriculums to re-emphasize and support daytime learning and close the scholastic achievement gap. In the spring of 2006 additional funding was provided through Prop. 49, and the District was able to add a program at a junior high school. Afterschool Opportunities for Kids (AOK) operates at 5 elementary schools, and ASES operates at La Cumbre Junior High. Together they link the world of school with after school by providing learning opportunities in sports, art, science, reading, language development, math and much, much more. A small monthly

fee is charged by the District to participate. The Department is contracted by the SBSB to provide staffing for the recreational component of the elementary program.

Junior High After School Sports and Enrichment: This program provides sport leagues (free to all participants) and activities at four junior high school sites. Police Activities League administers the sport leagues with funding support from the SBSB (\$40,000), City of Santa Barbara (\$20,000), and City of Goleta (\$20,000). The City coordinates the programs offered by our partners, Club West (cross-country), BiCi Centro (cycling) and Girls, Inc. (photography). The partner programs are offered on the campuses through volunteers and non-profit funding. For parents that can't afford the high cost of club sports, this program steps in to fill the gap during the critical after school hours.

After School Sport Leagues: At ten SBSB elementary schools, the Department offers free after school sport leagues that promote physical fitness, develop school camaraderie, and teach basic sport techniques to participants. School teams in three sports - flag football, basketball, and soccer - participate in an eight-week program that includes weekly practices and games with paid coaches and referees. Participants receive skill and drill training before entering into an inter-scholastic league schedule with each sport culminating with a season ending tournament held on the Santa Barbara City College campus. One side benefit of the league is the opportunity for participants to meet and play against school teams from all over the City, building participant relationships (often cross-town) prior to entering junior high schools.

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