



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION REPORT

AGENDA DATE: October 24, 2012

TO: Parks and Recreation Commission

FROM: Sports and Youth Activities, Recreation Division

SUBJECT: Afterschool Programs

RECOMMENDATION: That the Commission receive a report on the Parks and Recreation Department's Afterschool Programs.

DISCUSSION:

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

Recreation Afterschool Program (RAP): The Department's RAP program provides recreation services and homework help at four SBUSD elementary school sites. Creative clubs, special field trips, and homework completion assistance enhance the basic activities offered. Staff is well-trained, hard-working, and work closely with principals to provide a safe, well-supervised, and interesting program. To reach as many students as possible, the fee-based program is supported by ample scholarships, Santa Barbara County Education, and provides Inclusion support services

Afterschool Opportunities for Kids (Afterschool Education and Safety (ASES, A-OK) program: In 1999, the SBUSD applied to the State of California Department of Education and received a grant to provide tutoring and educational activities in elementary afterschool programs. Priority was given to (Title 1 schools) where at least 50 percent of the students qualified for free and reduced lunch, and there was a high incidence of students performing below grade level. The program is held at six SBUSD elementary schools, and the goals of the A-OK program have been 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 Proposition 49, and the SBUSD were able to add a program at a La Cumbre Junior High School.

New this year, are Academic Liaisons that train A-OK Program Leaders in appropriate grade level tutoring strategies, observe A-OK Program Leaders during Scholar Hour, and discuss enhancing communication between the instructional day teachers and the A-OK Program staff. A kindergarten component is also new this year at McKinley. Parks and Recreation Department staff is contracted by the SBUSD to provide the recreational component of the elementary A-OK program. A small monthly fee is charged by the SBUSD to provide bussing and assist with other expenditures.

Junior High Afterschool Sports and Enrichment: This program provides sport leagues and activities at four junior high school sites. The Police Activities League (PAL) administers the sport leagues with funding support from the SBUSD (\$40,000), City of Santa Barbara (\$20,000), and the City of Goleta (\$20,000). The City coordinates the programs offered by our partners Club West (cross-country) and BiCi Centro (cycling). 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 afterschool hours.

Afterschool Sport Leagues: At ten SBUSD elementary schools, the Department offers free afterschool 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. Participation has increased by 238 participants or 31% from FY 10- FY 12, with a total of 1,012 participants in FY 12.

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