

# Austin Parks and Recreation Department and Austin ISD Interlocal Agreement

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**Presented by**

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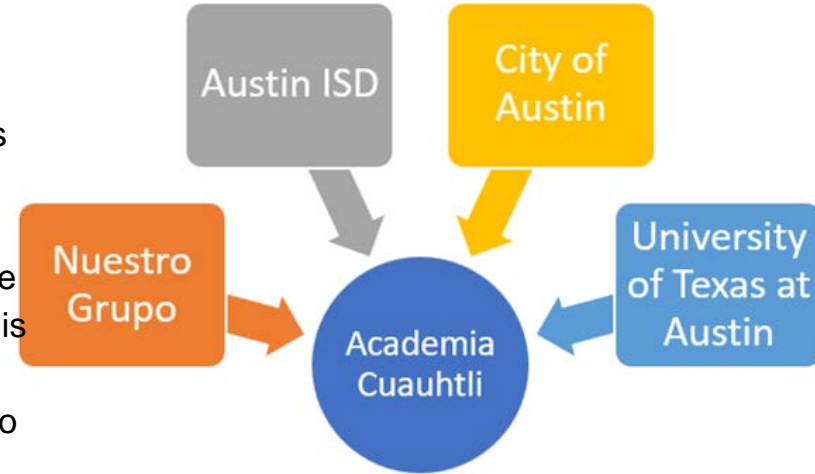
# Interlocal Agreement



The purpose of this Agreement is to continue the framework for cooperation between the City and AISD to utilize classroom facilities at the ESB-MACC for the implementation of the Saturday Academy to support the advancement of literacy in English and Spanish for AISD children, youth, and their parents.

# Background

The idea for a Saturday Academy emerged in 2013 during a meeting hosted by the Emma S. Barrientos Mexican American Cultural Center (ESB-MACC). A lively discussion ensued about the literacy challenges facing the Latino community and the need to commit to an effective, organized effort that UT education professor Dr. Angela Valenzuela later came to call a ***cultural and language revitalization project***. The attendees encouraged Dr. Valenzuela to give programmatic form to this idea based on the past and ongoing work by institutions, individuals, and groups represented in the audience, some of whom volunteered to participate in the project.



By 2014, an interlocal agreement was signed between Austin ISD (AISD) and the City of Austin. This provided funding and technical assistance for Academia Cuauhtli, the development of curriculum, and the preparation of AISD teachers to participate in the Saturday morning instructional program.

# Services Provided by AISD



1. Coordination, planning, and execution of the Academia Cuauhtli Saturday Academy, which recruits and welcomes families from Title 1 schools. The program is provided free to parents and their children through Nuestro Grupo;
2. Promotion of ESB-MACC as an institution, mission, and space in marketing materials, conferences, articles, and other events when Academia Cuauhtli and Nuestro Grupo programs are presented;
3. Weekly meetings to promote community engagement in a series of local initiatives related to education, community, health, art, and more;
4. AISD co-constructs professional curricula that is shared with the ESB-MACC and makes available districtwide in grades 3-7, and 11; and
5. As a program, AISD offers a variety of workshops that enhances Austinites' awareness of local opportunities, including public and higher education, as well as local community arts institutions and available opportunities for children and youth.

# AISD Services Provided (Cont'd)



Today, Nuestro Grupo organizes the activities throughout the “Cuauhtli School Year” based on a calendar negotiated and agreed upon with our partners. This includes:

- ❖ Recruiting and training volunteers for the program
- ❖ Coordinate community outreach efforts on behalf of AISD

## Family Support

- Parent coordinator
- Nuestro Grupo Cuauhtli Coordinator

## Community Engagement

- Community Liaison
- Media and Outreach Intern
- Logistics

## Research and Development

- Fundraising
- Teacher Coordinator
- Research Assistant Intern

## Lessons and Curriculum

- Teachers
- Curriculum Developers
- Volunteers/Coordinators

# About Academia Cuauhtli

## Our Vision

Honor our community's cultural heritage, foster a social justice consciousness and reclaim our collective identity in pursuit of educational freedom.



**Lessons and instructions organized and delivered by AISD bilingual teachers to serve the following Title 1 elementary schools through Academia Cuauhtli:**

- ❖ Sanchez
- ❖ Metz
- ❖ Zavala
- ❖ Perez
- ❖ Houston

# AISSD Services Provided (Cont'd)

- ❖ Innovative curriculum adapted by AISSD teachers and professors
- ❖ A variety of field trips, speakers, artist, and community members committed to the program and the children and families we serve

## Identity

- We are all important, loved, and worthy of respect. This unit views their cultures and identities as strengths.

## Migration

- This unit goes over the different global patterns of migration and migrants' rights and challenges.

## Indigeneity

- Our roots go beyond our own understanding and conscious memory.

## Social Justice

- Change is possible through a collective effort. This section covers important activists who struggled to make a better world.

## Danza

- This excites their imaginations and makes learning fun.





# Deliverables

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## **Nuestro Grupo provides**

- ❖ Annual, end-of-year report that summarizes events, programming, and participation will be shared to AISD and ESB-MACC representatives.
- ❖ Attendance reports of all events and meetings that take place at the ESB-MACC will be shared to AISD and ESB-MACC representatives.
- ❖ Staff to plan and coordinate programming

## **AISD provides**

- ❖ Funding for staff, programming, and teachers to implement Saturday Academy, transportation, food, and materials

## **PARD provides**

- ❖ Space at ESB-MACC for programming and events
  - Selected Saturdays and Wednesday evenings during academic year
- ❖ Technical support by ESB-MACC staff during events



# Agreement Terms and Conditions



## Term:

- ❖ Initial term is three years
- ❖ Three successive 12-month terms (automatic renewals)
- ❖ Funding provided by AISD for staff and some programming
- ❖ City of Austin provide facilities for programs

## Monitoring:

- ❖ AISD will establish monthly communication with the ESB-MACC staff to verify attendance and participation records to identify any potential problems and recommended solutions

## Requested Committee Action



PARD staff requests that the Parks and Recreation Board recommend to Austin City Council that the Council authorize the negotiation and execution of an Interlocal Cooperation Agreement between the City of Austin and the Austin Independent School District for a language and culture revitalization program.

# Thank you.

## Questions/Comments?

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