

Recommendation for Council Action

AUSTIN CITY COUNCIL

Regular Meeting: November 29, 2018 Item Number: 010

Library

Authorize negotiation and execution of an interlocal agreement with the Austin Independent School District for a one-year pilot of the Library Cards for All Students Program, which will allow the Austin Public Library to offer a full purpose Student Library Card to all students enrolled in the Austin Independent School District.

Lead Department	Austin Public Library.
Fiscal Note	This item has no fiscal impact.
For More Information	Dana McBee, Assistant Director, Austin Public Library 512-974-7433; Emi Johnson, Business Process Consultant Sr., Austin Public Library 512-974-7546.

Additional Backup Information:

The Austin Public Library (APL) and the Austin Independent School District (AISD) have the shared goal of removing barriers and closing the opportunity gap by providing students easy access and use of the Austin Public Library system through a pilot of the Library Cards for All Students Program.

Through this interlocal agreement, an AISD student's parent or legal guardian will have the choice to opt-in to the Program, through AISD's online registration process, to request a student library card for their child. In addition, the parent or legal guardian would give permission for AISD to share information that APL needs to issue a student library card.

This pilot program will offer students, who may be otherwise unaware of or unable to access, free access to the valuable resources of the Austin Public Library system. The student card offers full library privileges, including access to the Library's physical and virtual materials. Students and their families may also request reference and research assistance from APL staff by phone, live chat, text, or in-person during all of our operating hours.

This RCA will authorize the negotiation and execution of the interlocal agreement to establish the one-year pilot program, for the period August 1, 2018 through August 31, 2019. City staff will negotiate and execute an agreement with AISD that will outline the terms and conditions of the proposed arrangement. At the end of the one-year pilot program term, APL and AISD will evaluate the program to identify opportunities for improvement and potential expansion to other school districts.

This agreement will serve as a guideline for other school districts that serve Austin residents. APL's goal is to give student library cards to every student in school districts with Austin addresses. APL staff will be working with City Council to waive library card fees for those students living outside of the city limits, but have Austin addresses.