



Recommendation for Action

File #: 20-3311, **Agenda Item #:** 17.

10/29/2020

Posting Language

Authorize negotiation and execution of an interlocal agreement with the Austin Independent School District for the Library Cards for All Students Program, which allows the Austin Public Library to offer a full purpose student library card to all students enrolled in the Austin Independent School District for the period from September 1, 2019 through August 31, 2021, with up to four additional 12-month terms.

Lead Department

Austin Public Library

Fiscal Note

This item has no fiscal impact.

Prior Council Action:

On November 29, 2018, Council authorized the 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.

For More Information:

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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 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 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, regardless of the students' residency.

The previous interlocal agreement allowed APL and AISD the opportunity to offer this program as a pilot to onboard AISD students in our Library Cards for All Students Initiative. Data collected from the pilot indicates that the program successfully provided equitable and affordable access to quality educational materials and resources. Although the data does not reflect a full typical school year, as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic,

the following results were achieved:

- A total of 81,218 AISD students have APL student cards as of the end of September 2020;
- A total of 41,635 items were borrowed by AISD students. Elementary students borrowed the most materials (37,783 items).
- A total of 33,658 elementary students, 12,271 middle school students, and 12,331 high school students used their library cards during the 2019-2020 school year.

This RCA will authorize the negotiation and execution of the interlocal agreement to continue the program for an initial term of 12 months for the period of November 1, 2020 through October 31, 2021. The parties may choose to renew the interlocal agreement for up to four additional 12-month terms. City staff will negotiate and execute an agreement with AISD that will outline the terms and conditions of the arrangement.

Strategic Outcome(s):

Culture and Lifelong Learning.