

AGENDA



Thursday, December 18, 2008

Austin Energy
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 3

Subject: Authorize negotiation and execution of an Interlocal Agreement between the City of Austin and the Austin Independent School District (AISD) to support four Hispanic Futures Conferences and a pilot program, La Clase Magica, to equip students with effective language skills, for a contract amount not to exceed \$100,000.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Operating Budget of Austin Energy.

Fiscal Note: There is no unanticipated financial impact. A fiscal note is not required.

For More Information: Jeff Vice, Director of Local Government Relations, 322-6087.

Prior Council Action: September 8, 2008 – Approved 2008-2009 Budget, including funding for the Hispanic Futures Conferences.

The City of Austin's 2008-2009 Budget included a \$100,000 commitment from Austin Energy to fund four Hispanic Futures Conferences. The proposed Interlocal Agreement will enable the Austin Independent School District (AISD) to accept the funds to coordinate the conferences and a pilot program designed to enhance the social, cultural, educational and economic opportunities of Hispanic-Latino students and their families in the greater Austin community. \$50,000 will be dedicated to each of these two initiatives.

If approved, AISD will coordinate four Hispanic Futures Conferences during the 2008 – 2009 school year at selected AISD middle and high schools. AISD will also contract with the Texas Center for Education Policy (TCEP), an affiliate of the University of Texas at Austin, a 170 (a) (1) nonprofit organization, to develop and implement a model program, La Clase Mágica, to equip students and their families with effective language tools in order to raise their achievement levels. The term of this Agreement is for one calendar year from the latest date of execution to June 30, 2009.

AISD will be responsible for providing four conferences across the City that focus on student leadership and decision making processes, including the creation of a database of participants' attendance; the tracking of students and their progress using key performance indicators, (e.g. student attendance, discipline incidents, academic achievement and community outreach efforts); and conduct of an evaluation after each conference; and a pilot of the TCEP's La Clase Mágica model in two elementary schools during the 2008 – 2009 school year.

Dates, locations and topics of the four Conferences:

1. November 9, 2008: Mexican-American Cultural Center, 600 River Street, "Be Informed and Aware of Your Resources and Power."
2. January 17, 2009: Lyndon B. Johnson (LBJ) High School, "Find Your Passion and Get Engaged."
3. March 7, 2009, William B. Travis High School, "Health, Housing and Education."
4. April 25, 2009, Austin Community College, Riverside Campus, "College, Technology and the Workforce of the Future."

AISD will serve as the financial administrator and any purchases will be required to comply with Austin ISD purchasing procedures as set forth in board policy and state law.