



Recommendation for Action

File #: 20-3313, **Agenda Item #:** 18.

10/29/2020

Posting Language

Authorize negotiation and execution of an interlocal agreement with the Del Valle Independent School District for the district's participation in 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 Del Valle Independent School District.

Lead Department

Austin Public Library

Fiscal Note

This item has no fiscal impact.

Prior Council Action:

On June 19, 2019, Council authorized negotiation and execution of an interlocal agreement with the Del Valle Independent School District for the district's participation in the Library Cards for All Students Program for the period July 1, 2019, through August 31, 2020.

For More Information:

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Additional Backup Information:

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

Through this interlocal agreement, a DVISD student's parent or legal guardian, through DVISD's online registration process, will be able to request a student library card for their child. In addition, the parent or legal guardian would give permission for DVISD 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 APL 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.

The previous interlocal agreement allowed APL and DVISD the opportunity to offer this program as a 1-year pilot to onboard DVISD students in our Library Cards for All Students Program. 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 11,586 DVISD students have APL student cards as of the end of September 2020;
- A total of 2,668 items were borrowed by DVISD students. Elementary students borrowed the most materials (2,045 items).

This RCA will authorize the negotiation and execution of a new 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 DVISD that will outline the terms and conditions of the arrangement.

APL's goal is to give student library cards to every student in school districts with Austin addresses.

Strategic Outcome(s):

Culture and Lifelong Learning.