

Mayor and Council Communication

DATE: 06/22/21

M&C FILE NUMBER: M&C 21-0490

LOG NAME: 80WAIVER OF COMMUNITY CENTER FEES

SUBJECT

(ALL) Authorize the Execution of an Interlocal Agreement with the Fort Worth Independent School District, wherein the Fort Worth Independent School District will Provide Special Education Training Opportunities for City Employees in Exchange for the City Providing Certain Fort Worth Independent School District Students with Volunteer Opportunities and Community Center Gold Level Fitness Memberships; Authorize Waiver of Community Center Gold Level Fitness Center Membership Fees; and Find for Public Purpose

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Authorize the execution of an Interlocal Agreement with the Fort Worth Independent School District, wherein the Fort Worth Independent School District will provide special education training opportunities for City employees in exchange for the City providing certain Fort Worth Independent School District Intellectually or Developmentally Disabled students and graduates with volunteer opportunities and a community center gold level fitness membership;
 2. Authorize the waiver of community center Gold Level Fitness Memberships fees; and
 3. Find that the waiver of such fees serves to carry out the public purpose of cooperative engagement between public entities to create successful and inclusive environments for City and Fort Worth Independent School District staff, community members, and students with Intellectual or Developmental Disabilities through the promotion of community connections, the offering of social outreach, training and development opportunities, as well as through activities that support social-emotional behavioral development, and that adequate controls are in place to carry out such public purpose.
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DISCUSSION:

The purpose of this Mayor and Council Communication (M&C) is to authorize the execution of an Interlocal Agreement with the Fort Worth Independent School District (FWISD) concerning special education training for City employees.

FWISD's Special Education Department and City staff have forged a mutually beneficial Interlocal Agreement whereby:

The FWISD will provide the following:

1. Special Education training specialists that will provide a minimum of 2 trainings (up to 3 hours in duration) a year for the City's community center staff, which include the following topics:
 - a. Classroom management
 - b. Techniques to engage children with Autism, Attention Deficit Disorders, and Defiant Disorders
 - c. Handling behavior issues with children with special needs using a mental health approach
 - d. De-escalation, including aggressive children, children who auto-inflict harm, disarming children with sharp objects who threaten to harm themselves or others
 - e. Approach to handling runners and ways to restrain children without being physical
2. A confirmation letter to graduates as evidence of prior enrollment in FWISD Special Education program; ID badges will serve as proof of enrollment for current students.
3. A list of volunteer opportunities at the City for FWISD IDD students and graduates that are 18 years of age or older.

City of Fort Worth will provide the following:

1. Volunteer opportunities for FWISD IDD students and graduates that are 18 years of age or older.
2. Gold level fitness center memberships to the City's community centers at no charge for any FWISD IDD students and graduates that complete a minimum of two (2) volunteer hours per month for twelve (12) months (or 24 hours per year) within any City department. The membership will be for one full year.
3. Keep FWISD confirmation letters on file for FWISD students with IDD who graduated from a FWISD school once they have applied for volunteer hours.

By approving this M&C, the City Council finds that the waiver of the fees serves to carry out the public purpose of cooperative engagement between public entities to create successful and inclusive environments for City and FWISD staff, community members, and students with IDD through the promotion of community connections, the offering of social outreach, training and development opportunities, as well as through activities that support social-emotional behavioral development, and that adequate controls are in place to carry out such public purpose through the Interlocal Agreement.

This request serves all Council Districts.

FISCAL INFORMATION / CERTIFICATION:

The Director of Finance certifies that approval of these recommendations will have no material effect on City funds.

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