

**METROPOLITAN EDUCATION COMMISSION  
YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL/TUCSON TEEN CONGRESS (YAC/TTC)  
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2016  
PIMA COUNTY LIBRARY LOWER LEVEL MEETING ROOM,  
101 N. STONE AVE., TUCSON, ARIZONA  
MEETINGS MINUTES**

**Members Present:** Maggie Zheng, David Ojeda, Arnolando Martinez, Leshawn Bowen, Jazmin Nunez, Ev Essif, Madeline Zheng, Patrick Derrig, Kyle Hetherington, Nia Moran, Aaditee Kudrimoti, Brennen Fedder, Karmae Douglass, Nikolas Walls, Roberto Diaz.

**Non-Members Present:** Paul Lovelis, Ed Nossem, Kendra Davey.

1.0 CALL TO ORDER – DAVID OJEDA

Meeting called to order at 6:05 P.M.

2.0 ROLL CALL – DAVID OJEDA

Roll was called; a quorum of members was present.

3.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – DAVID OJEDA

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all attendees.

4.0 APPROVAL OF JANUARY 6, 2016 MEETING MINUTES – DAVID OJEDA

Motion to approve: Kyle Hetherington

Second: Madeline Zheng

Minutes approved unanimously.

5.0 CIVIC ENGAGEMENT DAY PRESENTATION – PAUL LOVELIS & PRESENTERS

Discussion revolved around the topics to be presented to state legislators – Proposition 123 issues; the teacher retention crisis, resource and technology availability, school infrastructure, JTED funding, and No Child Left behind and its successor.

It was decided that there will be 3 committees addressing the following issues:

1. JTED funding and recent developments;
2. Teacher retention. pay, and quality issues; and
3. School infrastructure and resource issues. “New ideas” can be incorporated into each of the discussions.

Committee membership will be decided at the next meeting; recent media articles and information will be distributed. A date and time for the role-playing exercise should also be decided.

6.0 EVERYONE MATTERS DAY DISCUSSION – PAUL LOVELIS & ED NOSSEM

Tucson Mayor Jonathan Rothschild has requested that the YAC/TTC be the local representative youth group for the National Everyone Matters Day. On April 12, 2016, “Everyone Matters Day,” Mayors and City Halls from across the U.S. and globally come together to celebrate the contribution of all citizens in making that city vibrant, and bring a healing message of acceptance and inclusiveness; with events that are unifying,

celebrating everyone's value, and promoting positive human values. The cities of Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, San Antonio, Austin, Portland, Milwaukee, Calgary, Winston-Salem, Albuquerque, Tucson, Durham, Cape Town and other cities across the U.S. and beyond are participating.

Various ideas were presented for the event, including a Snap Chat across schools, utilizing competition between schools, focus on introverted people, people with mental & physical disabilities, and featuring people who can promote being different and successful, such as former YAC/TTC member and motivational speaker Jessica Cox, who has been contacted.

The Everyone Matters Day Committee volunteers are Brenden Fedder, Maggie Zheng, Aadittee Kudrimoti, Kyle Hetherington, and David Ojeda. Paul Lovelis will contact the Mayor's office to see if Karla Avalos Soto can participate in the discussions. The committee will meet on Monday, February 1<sup>st</sup>, 4:00 p.m. at the MEC office.

#### 7.0 KEY TO EMPLOYMENT VOLUNTEERS – ED NOSSEM

The Key to Employment Symposium volunteers should meet at the U of A Student Union at 8:00 a.m. on Wednesday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>, where they will be assigned various duties.

#### 8.0 PIMA COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY – KENDRA DAVEY

Kendra Davey updated on the Library's 101 Youth Space, a State Library funding for Writers in Residence (one in the spring and one in the fall)- both groups are interested in working with teens. A U of A Day at the Library is being discussed; the MEC's Regional College Access Center will be invited to participate. This will address the lack of high school counselors knowledgeable about college financial aid and attendance requirements. It was also suggested that students get and retain their teachers and counselors' email addresses, so that they can be contacted if they move on to another school or another job.

#### 9.0 ANNOUNCEMENTS

Arnoldo Martinez led a discussion of possible fundraising options. Maggie Zheng is enlisting a Panda Express for a Donation Night. Texas Roadhouse and Appleby's were also mentioned as possibilities. The Donation Letter has been edited and sent to Dr. June Webb-Vignery for approval.

Paul Lovelis announced important upcoming dates: K3E February 3<sup>rd</sup>; Civic Engagement Day March 2<sup>nd</sup>; LULAC Youth Leadership Conference & Career Fair March 11, Everyone Matters Day April 12<sup>th</sup>, and the Crystal Apple Awards Luncheon April 29<sup>th</sup>.

#### 10.0 CALL TO THE PUBLIC

No action.

#### 11.0 ADJOURNMENT

Motion to approve: Kyle Hetherington

Second: Brennen Fedder

Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.