

**EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT  
CORPORATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, MARCH 1, 2022  
1:00 PM  
SAN ANTONIO BOTANICAL GARDEN**

**Members Present:** Board Member Elaine Mendoza, Chair, *Mayoral*  
Board Member Brandon Logan, *District 2*  
Board Member Joe De La Garza, *District 3*  
Board Member Gloria Ramirez, *District 5*  
Board Member Frances Guzman, *District 7*  
Board Member Dr. Shari Albright, Secretary, *District 8*  
Board Member Jan Kirby, *District 10*

---

**Members Absent:** Vacant, *District 1*  
Board Member Richard Perez, *District 4*  
Board Member Dr. Tracy Hurley, *District 6*  
Board Member Dr. Richard Middleton, *District 9*

---

**Staff Present:** Sarah Baray, Ph.D., *Pre-K 4 SA Chief Executive Officer*; Erik Walsh, *City Manager*; Alex Lopez, *Assistant City Manager*; Shreya Shah, *City Attorney's Office*; Paul Chapman, *Pre-K 4 SA*; Larrisa Wilkinson, *Pre-K 4 SA*; Eryanne Taft, *Pre-K 4 SA*

---

**Also Present:** Daisy Castillo, *Pre-K 4 SA*; Maria Castoreno, *Pre-K 4 SA*; Elizabeth Rodriguez, *Pre-K 4 SA*; David Villarreal, *Pre-K 4 SA*; Peter Maciel, *Pre-K 4 SA*; Paul Aleman, *Pre-K 4 SA*; Victoria Shum, *City Attorney's Office*; Ramiro Amaro, *ITSD*; Mike Ramsey, *Workforce Development Office*; Marc Sewell, *RSM*;

---

## **Call to Order**

Chairwoman Mendoza called the meeting to order at 1:01pm.

### **1. Pre-K 4 SA Board of Directors Retreat a.) Welcome and Departmental Overview b.) Strategic Planning Work Session**

Dr. Baray began her briefing on Pre-K 4 SA's Strategic Plan with a review of the first eight-year authorization for the program, including what was promised to voters, what Pre-K 4 SA delivered to the community, and how the work was accomplished. She then reiterated the 2020 promise to voters and reminded the Board of the Strategic Goals that were developed in conjunction with the Board last year to guide the next eight-year authorization:

1. **Expand access** to affordable, high-quality prekindergarten for all three and four-year-olds in San Antonio.
2. **Strengthen San Antonio's early learning infrastructure** to create an equitable, affordable, high-quality early learning and care system for young children.
3. **Elevate and support families** as educational partners, leaders, and advocates who nurture and foster the long-term success of children.

4. **Attract, develop, and retain top talent** in the field of early childhood education.
5. Leverage Pre-K 4 SA's position as a national leader and expert in high-quality early learning and care to **advance early childhood policy, research, and innovation.**

Regarding the first strategic goal, Dr. Baray provided data demonstrating that while great strides have been made to increase pre-K enrollment for four-year-olds, the percentage of eligible three-year-olds being serviced in the community is only 12.2%. Director of Professional Learning & Program Innovation, Larrisa Wilkinson, highlighted the work Pre-K 4 SA plans to build on related to Goal 2. She prefaced her briefing by reporting that childcare centers have faced significant challenges due to staffing and high turnover. Despite this, Pre-K 4 SA and United Way have been supporting 17 Child Development Centers through shared services and plan to grow the program to over 100 providers in the next two years. She also noted Pre-K 4 SA's success with the Teachers for Tots pilot program, and the Quality Child Care Matters (QCCM) initiative launched in conjunction with AVANCE.

Paul Chapman, Interim Chief Operating Officer, spoke to the objectives of goal 3, and described how the alignment of Communications, Community Partnerships, Family Engagement, and Registration teams will help create a seamless experience for families.

Regarding the fourth goal, Dr. Baray highlighted the educator pipeline model developed in conjunction with CAST, Pre-K 4 SA, Alamo Colleges, and Texas A&M which seeks to identify aspiring early learning educators in high school and takes them through professional teacher and leader certifications at the University level. She also highlighted our work with UTSA and Texas A&M to leverage research partnerships to help elevate Pre-K 4 SA as a national leader and expert in high quality early learning.

Dr. Baray then moved on to present a high-level organizational chart with proposed reorganizations aimed to execute the strategic plan more efficiently. In addition, she prompted the Board to provide feedback regarding their collective and individual role as Board members through the next reauthorization period.

Board members went into discussion about the role they would like to play as a group and individually in helping to realize the vision of Pre-K 4 SA over the next 8 years.

## **2. Approval of minutes of the November 8, 2021, Early Childhood Education Municipal Development Corporation Board of Directors Meeting.**

Board member Logan motioned to approve the minutes of the November 8, 2021, Early Childhood Education Municipal Development Corporation Board of Directors Meeting. Board member De La Garza seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously by those present.

## **3. Public Comments [If a member of the public would like to provide comment to the Pre-K 4 SA Board on Pre-K 4 SA related matters, please email comments to [prek4sa@sanantonio.gov](mailto:prek4sa@sanantonio.gov) before 2:00 PM on the day of the meeting]**

There were no public comments to be heard.

**Briefing and Possible Action on the following items:**

**4. Briefing of the Pre-K 4 SA Fiscal Year 2021 Financial Audit and related reports  
[Marc Sewell, CPA, Partner; RSM US LLP]**

Marc Sewell, RSM, gave a brief report of the Pre-K 4 SA Fiscal Year 2021 Financial Audit and related reports.

**5. Briefing on the SA Ready to Work Education and Job Placement Program [Michael Ramsey, Director, Workforce Development Office]**

Michael Ramsey, Director of Workforce Development provided a briefing on the SA Ready to Work Education and Job Placement Program.

The Board went into discussion regarding the program.

**Executive Session**

Chairwoman Mendoza recessed the San Antonio Early Childhood Education Municipal Development Corporation Board of Directors Meeting into executive session at 3:38 p.m. She reconvened the meeting at 3:50 p.m. No action was taken at this time.

**Consideration of Future Meetings**

- 6. The next meeting of the Board of Directors is scheduled to take place on Tuesday, March 22, 2022, at 2:00 p.m. at the Pre-K4 SA North Center for the budget work session.**

**Adjournment**

**There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 3:51 p.m.**

*Respectfully Submitted,*

---

*Elaine Mendoza, Chairperson*

---

*Maria Castoreno, Pre-K 4 SA*