



# City of San Antonio

## Agenda Memorandum

**File Number:**  
**{{item.tracking\_number}}**

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**Agenda Item Number:** {{item.number}}

**Agenda Date:** August 31, 2023

**In Control:** San Antonio Early Childhood Education Municipal Development Corporation Meeting

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**DEPARTMENT:** Pre-K 4 SA

**DEPARTMENT HEAD:** Dr. Sarah Baray

**COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED:** Citywide

**SUBJECT:**

Gardendale Year 3 Independent Evaluation

**SUMMARY:**

This item includes a briefing of the results from Year 3 Independent Evaluation of the Gardendale Early Learning Program by Westat.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

Prior to the 2013-14 school year, the Board of Directors awarded a contract to Edvance Research to conduct an independent evaluation of the program. The contract was approved with an initial five-year term, and one three-year renewal option. Edvance Research went on to produce and release reports for years 1 and 2 of the program, which the organization presented to the Board of Directors in 2014 and 2015. In December 2015, Westat, a leading research organization, acquired Edvance Research. In November 2021, the Board approved an amendment to the Westat

independent evaluation contract, extending the term of the contract to November 30, 2024, with two one-year renewal options. Westat has continued to assess Pre-K 4 SA to fulfill the original contract. Additionally, the contract scope was expanded in 2021 to include evaluation services at Gardendale Early Learning Program, which is a Pre-K 4 SA demonstration site under SB 1882.

Westat completed the independent evaluation report for the 2021-2022 school year and presented findings of the Pre-K 4 SA program to the Board of Directors in November 2022. Outcomes for the Gardendale Early Learning Program were still under review at that time, and are now being presented to the Board to include:

- Classroom quality
- Kindergarten and first grade readiness
- Early literacy and numeracy

**ISSUE:**

This item is a briefing for informational purposes only.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

This item is a briefing for informational purposes only.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

This item is a briefing for informational purposes only.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

This item is a briefing for informational purposes only.