

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR
AND CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Norberto L. Dueñas

SUBJECT: EDUCATION AND DIGITAL
LITERACY STRATEGY

DATE: September 1, 2016

INFORMATION

On June 15, 2016, the Rules and Open Government Committee accepted Mayor Liccardo's recommendation, directing the City Manager to "develop a citywide strategy for supporting education and digital literacy, in consultation with our schools, non-profit after-school and summer service providers, foundations, the County Office of Education, and the community. Further, it was requested that the "strategy should have a clearly identified leadership within City Staff to align resources, develop the strategy, and ensure effective implementation."

Each of our City departments contributes to educational enrichment of our communities in varied and meaningful ways. We have partnered with our school districts, through the Schools/City Collaborative (S/CC), and made significant investments in supporting academic attainment for our students and their families. While we have built strong and productive relationships with our schools, we also recognize the importance of ensuring that City resources are focused in a coordinated effort to maximize impacts, measure outcomes, and identify potential solutions that could be expanded.

In response to the direction from Rules, I am designating Jill Bourne, City Librarian, as Senior Staff lead in this effort. As Director of the San José Public Library, Jill has experience leading the development of Citywide services that augment formal academic programs and offer high-quality, non-traditional learning opportunities to our communities. She led the implementation of a strategy that stabilized funding for libraries, opened all branches six days per week, expanded educational services by partnering with numerous organizations, and removed economic barriers to information access for all communities in San José. In addition, the Schools City Collaborative (S/CC) assignment will be transferred to Jill's portfolio of work with support from the City Manager's Office to ensure a smooth and complete transition and to more effectively align all our efforts in support of our education partners. Thank you Jill!

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The first phase of this work will involve an assessment of: 1) current educational programs provided by all City departments; 2) needs identified in partnership with a diverse set of stakeholders and industry leaders; 3) relevant policy and data; and 4) possible opportunities for engaging partners. This process will provide context that informs the development of a citywide approach, vision, and strategy for improving educational outcomes for San José's youth. We will provide an update in fall 2016.



Norberto L. Dueñas
City Manager

For more information, please contact Jill Bourne, City Librarian at (408) 808-2150.