



Youth Agenda Report

October 2010





What is Redwood City's Youth Agenda?

The City of Redwood City provides extensive youth services to the community through a number of Departments; including the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department; the Library; the Police Department ; and the City Manager's Office. It is our Purpose to "Build a Great Community Together", and we believe that providing quality education, recreation, health and safety services that help kids to succeed, are the building blocks necessary to meet our Purpose.

The City Council has developed Strategic Initiatives which represent areas of focus for the entire organization. Strategic Initiatives are high-level policy areas, and are generally reviewed every five years. They serve as a guide to help focus the efforts of the City Council, the City's Boards, Committees, and Commissions, and City Staff, and offer guidance to effectively align resources and priorities.

The current Strategic Initiatives are: Effective and Efficient Service Delivery; Community Building and Communications; Economic Development; Public Safety; Transportation; and Youth.

Why Youth?

Bringing our community's youth issues into the forefront through programs and policies that support youth development, education, after school care, family support, and enrichment; and creating partnerships with our youth, recognizing youth as an asset that enhance the quality of life for all members of our community.

"Children are the world's most valuable resource and its best hope for the future" – John F. Kennedy

Together, the City focuses on the development of external and internal assets in children to help them succeed. When we develop programs and services, and when we consider the use of time and fiscal resources, City Staff considers the effect on building the External Assets of “Support”, “Empowerment”, “Boundaries and Expectations”, and “Constructive Use of Time”; as well as the effect on building the Internal Assets of “Commitment to Learning”; “Positive Values”; “Social Competencies”; and “Positive Identity”.

The following are specific programs and services which the Library; the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department; the Police Department; and the City Manager’s Office which are building specific assets in our youth:

SUPPORT

Provide Positive Adult Relationships:

-70 teen and adult casual employees, supervised by 8 adult Recreation Coordinators, provide quality after-school programs at 8 different school campuses where we serve over 1,000 children a day

Caring School Climate:

EMPOWERMENT

Service to Others:

-15 teens are serving on the Teen Advisory Committee that provides support for special events; makes recommendations on teen programming; and provides community services such as park clean-ups and fitness instruction in schools.

-20 middle school youth serve on the Youth Advisory Committee that provides support for specials events, and raises funds for scholarships.

Community Values Youth:

Safety:

“I believe education is the great equalizer. Our children are our hope for the future, so we have an obligation to provide them with the tools to succeed. There is no more powerful tool than knowledge.” – Dave Heineman



BOUNDARIES AND EXPECTATIONS

Adult Role Models:

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High Expectations:

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COMMITMENT TO LEARNING

Achievement Motivation:

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Learning Engagement:

- XXXX # of Homework Centers
- ### of Instructional Aide Certified staff working in After School Programs

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Reading for Pleasure:

- Summer Reading Club at all four Libraries which provides support for kids to keep up their reading skills during vacation and receive great prizes for doing so.
- Story times at all four Libraries
- Project Read which served **XXXX** in the Summer and **XXXX** this Fall
- XXX # of Library cards distributed to children in all of the After School Programs
- XXX of Family Author nights provided to XXXX children

POSITIVE VALUES

Caring:

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Equality and Social Justice:

-

Integrity:

-

Honesty:

-

Responsibility:

-

Healthy Lifestyle:

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SOCIAL COMPETENCIES

Planning and Decision Making:

-

Interpersonal Competencies:

-

Cultural Competence:

-

Resistance Skills:

-

Peaceful Conflict Resolution:

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POSITIVE IDENTITY

Personal Power:

-

Self-Esteem:

-

Sense of Purpose:

-

Positive View of Personal Future:

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