



YOUTH COMMISSION

MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Members, San Francisco Board of Supervisors

CC: Alisa Somera, Clerk, Land Use and Economic Development Committee

FROM: Peter Lauterborn, Education Policy Coordinator, Youth Commission
Mario Yedidia, Policy Coordinator, Youth Commission

DATE: February 2, 2010

RE: Proposed ordinance File No. 100054 [Workforce Development—Public Service Academies]

At our regular meeting of Monday, February 1, 2010, the San Francisco Youth Commission voted unanimously to support proposed ordinance file no. 100054.

We are particularly passionate about this ordinance because of our sustained work in developing a comprehensive school-to-career policy. In the spring of 2009, the Youth Commission drafted a resolution calling on the City and County of San Francisco to coordinate with the San Francisco Unified School District (SFUSD) to expand Career Technical Education opportunities and promote public sector career opportunities for SFUSD graduates. The final version of this resolution (which was also approved unanimously by the Youth Commission on Monday, February 1, 2010) is attached to this memorandum.

Along with our support, the Youth Commission also wants to express its interest in seeing amendments to this proposed ordinance that reflect the full scope of the Youth Commission's recommendations concerning youth workforce development.

Our recommendations include investing the Office of Economic and Workforce Development with a number of critical tasks: locating internships and possible job placements in various City departments for qualified SFUSD graduates, while coordinating with the SFUSD, San Francisco City College and other local post-secondary institutions; creating and managing—in coordination with the Controller and the Budget Analyst—tuition support mechanisms (like college loans) for SFUSD graduates; and developing a ten year implementation plan in collaboration with other City departments, the SFUSD and local post-secondary schools that will prepare native San Franciscans for public service jobs that require advanced degrees. For the full scope of our recommendations, please see the attached resolution.

Finally, the Youth Commission is working in partnership with the SFUSD to draft a policy complementing this ordinance and the Youth Commission's suggested amendments.

1 [Comprehensive School-to-Career Reform]

2 **RESOLUTION URGING THE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO EXPAND THE NUMBER OF**
3 **PATHWAYS AND ACADEMIES IN THE SFUSD IN CONJUNCTION WITH COORDINATED**
4 **SCHOOL-TO-CAREER EFFORTS WITH CITY COLLEGE AND THE CITY AND COUNTY**
5 **OF SAN FRANCISCO**

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7 WHEREAS, According to the Fall 2009 YouthVote Student Survey, 84% of high school
8 students within the San Francisco Unified School District (SFUSD) desire job-training and
9 career preparation courses in their schools, a want that is supported evenly among students
10 of all ethnic groups; and

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12 WHEREAS, In November of 2009, the unemployment rate for Americans between 16 and 19
13 years of age was over 40%, which is the highest rate of teenage unemployment in the United
14 States since World War II; and

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16 WHEREAS, A full 50% of SFUSD graduates who enroll in City College wind up dropping out;
17 and

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19 WHEREAS, The Department of Children, Youth, and their Families' 2008 Community Needs
20 Assessment details the need to integrate education and career development opportunities for
21 San Francisco's youth; and

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23 WHEREAS, The half semester college and career course requirements that each SFUSD
24 high school student must take fails to allow the student to explore in depth the career paths of

1 her or his respective interests, but rather is a short course that glides over the general aspects
2 of some careers; and

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4 WHEREAS, Job-training courses, such as pathways and academies(also known as Career
5 Technical Education or CTE) will allow high school students to connect the importance of
6 their school coursework with real life applications, thus engaging students to finish their
7 education; and

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9 WHEREAS, Most SFUSD high schools do not offer a wide variety of CTE opportunities for
10 students; and

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12 WHEREAS, At many SFUSD high schools, enrollment in a CTE program can preclude a
13 student's enrollment in AP or honors courses; and

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15 WEHREAS, Many CTE programs are dependent on the individual efforts of teachers at school
16 sites; and

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18 WHEREAS, By encouraging students to take a more active interest in their education as a
19 fundamental tool for future success, expanded CTE courses will help promote the importance
20 of both high school and higher education; and

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22 WHEREAS, These programs will begin to familiarize youth with and spark their interest in
23 fields like law, public safety, medicine, public health, the arts, and a variety of other fields; now
24 therefore be it

1 RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Youth Commission urges the SFUSD and the City and
2 County of San Francisco to develop and implement comprehensive school-to-career reform
3 by doing the following:

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5 The SFUSD shall:

- 6 • Provide greater support from its central office to its Career Technical Education
7 division; Expand pathway and academy opportunities at all school sites (i.e., ensure
8 that pathways and academies are A-G compliant and that participation in them does
9 not preclude a student's enrollment in AP courses); Increase college and career
10 awareness programming for 7th, 8th and 9th grade students Coordinate with San
11 Francisco City Departments; Increase the enrollment of students within each pathway
12 and academy Model new pathways and academies on the "Public Services Industry
13 Sector" section of the California State Board of Education's 2007 *California Technical*
14 *Education Framework for Public Schools*; and
- 15 • Coordinate with City Departments and City government to strengthen and articulate
16 clear pipelines from the high school academies and pathways to professions in
17 particular private industries and public sector fields.

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19 The City and County of San Francisco, through the Office of Economic and Workforce
20 Development shall:

- 21 • Develop and maintain consistent communication between the following three
22 institutions: the City and County of San Francisco and its various departments; the
23 SFUSD's Career Technical Education division; and post-secondary public educational
24 institutions in San Francisco (i.e., San Francisco City College, San Francisco State
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1 University, the University of California San Francisco and the University of California's
2 Hastings College of Law);

- 3 • Develop internships for SFUSD high school students and graduates in various City
4 departments;
- 5 • Create and manage tuition support mechanisms—by working with the Controller and
6 the Budget Analyst—for SFUSD graduates entering post-secondary institutions (and
7 structuring a loan forgiveness program contingent upon a students' subsequent work
8 for the City);Collaborate with City College to increase the number of SFUSD high school
9 graduates who complete their associate degrees
- 10 • Develop a ten (10) year implementation plan in collaboration with the SFUSD and other
11 City Departments that will prepare native San Franciscans for public service jobs that
12 require advanced degrees; and be it finally

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14 RESOLVED, That this plan be presented to the Board of Education, the City and School
15 District Committee of the Board of Supervisors and the San Francisco Youth Commission no
16 later than a year after the adoption of this policy.

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19 NICHOLAS QUESADA, CHAIR (MAYORAL APPOINTEE)

20 2009-2010 SAN FRANCISCO YOUTH COMMISSION

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22 FEBRUARY 1, 2010