



ECONOMIC VITALITY COMMITTEE REPORT

April 18, 2024
Economic Development

TITLE: PLEASANTON UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

BACKGROUND

In August 2023, the City Council adopted the updated Economic Development Strategic Plan (EDSP) which the Economic Vitality Committee uses as the foundation for its work. The plan comprises of 5 Implementation Plan Priorities:

- 1.0 Economic Development Capacity Building
- 2.0 Business Retention, Expansion & Attraction
- 3.0 Local Revenue Growth
- 4.0 Entrepreneurship & Innovation Outreach
- 5.0 Major Projects Accelerator Program

There are specific actions items under Priority 2.0 Business Retention, Expansion & Attraction that are related to the Pleasanton Unified School District's Workforce Development Programs:

2.4 Assess and Strengthen Talent/Workforce Development Offerings

In recognition that work-based learning is a proven practice for helping high school students make informed career choices, the City will explore and establish partnerships for "Pathway Programs" with local educational institutions including the Pleasanton Unified School District (PUSD) and Las Positas College as well as businesses, career centers, and workforce development boards. The City will also promote occupation certification and apprenticeship partnership opportunities with local educational institutions.

DISCUSSION

Pleasanton Unified School District (PUSD) operates multiple workforce development programs that strategically provide students with real-world, work-based learning opportunities sponsored by local business partners in order to cultivate workplace readiness skills and establish a talent pipeline for their organizations that begins in Pleasanton schools. Many of the students who participate in these workforce development programs are students enrolled in Career Technical Education (CTE) classes, special education students enrolled in Workability, and Adult Education students enrolled in the Adults with Disabilities (AWD) paid internship program.

To help facilitate these placements, organizations such as the Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce and Pleasanton Partners in Education play a critical role as champions for this initiative by spreading the word about the importance of this work and connecting PUSD with their members.

PUSD Career Pathways & Adult Learning Director, Dr. Amos Nugent III will attend the Economic Vitality Committee meeting to present an overview of PUSD's workforce development programs, what PUSD has accomplished so far this year and facilitate a dialogue with EVC members on how PUSD can develop a relationship with the City of Pleasanton to expand the scope and impact of PUSD's current workforce development programs.

Considerations for EVC discussion and input:

1. What role can the City take in partnering with PUSD to further workforce development efforts?
2. What methods can the City use to establish and formalize relationships with the business community to create more opportunities for Pleasanton students?

ACTION: RECEIVE PRESENTATION ON PLEASANTON UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT'S WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS AND PROVIDE FEEDBACK