



YOUTH COMMISSION MEMORANDUM

TO: Derek Evans, Assistant Clerk, Neighborhood Services and Safety Committee

FROM: Youth Commission

DATE: Monday, April 7, 2014

RE: **Youth Commission's referral response to BOS File No. 140274, Hearing on expanding technology sector opportunities for girls and low-income youth.**

At our regular meeting of April 7th, 2014, the Youth Commission voted unanimously to support the following motion:

To support file no. 140274, a hearing on expanding technology sector opportunities for girls and low-income youth.

During discussion on this item, the Youth Commission proposed and approved the following comment and recommendations regarding this hearing:

- We are supportive of the City exploring efforts to expand technology sector opportunities for girls and low-income youth. We would like to urge the BOS to look into expanding youth employment programs such as Project Pull, to include more tech related work experiences for youth interns.
- We would like to urge the BOS to consider supporting the expansion of programs like "Hour of Code", an educational event at Galileo High School which exposes students to computer science and programming, to be a school district and city wide initiative. Hour of Code workshops include learning programming language and hour long activities that are interactive and engaging. We would like the BOS to also support resource fairs which are centered on exposing students to computer science and programming.
- We recommend the City look into creating more accountability measures in its partnerships with private companies and encourage companies to expand its educational work with girls and low income youth. Tech companies who are hiring youth interns should also consider receiving professional development training on how to work with youth from community organizations which directly work with youth. The BOS should also inquire about how city partnerships with tech companies can also include

opportunities for tech professionals to mentor students in computer science courses or student tech clubs within SFUSD.

- We also recommend that when the City partner with private companies through the use of community benefit agreements, the City should encourage companies to expand displacement assistance and resources to low income youth.
- We would also like the BOS to inquire about the SFUSD's resources to hire highly qualified Math and Science teachers, as well as look into improving social and academic support based on the needs of low income girls. We would also like the hearing to explore any current private sector grants for youth led projects in the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) subjects.

Youth Commissioners are excited about this hearing and hope that the BOS consider inviting organizations and agencies working directly with girls such as the Alliance for Girls organization, the Center for Young Women's Development, and the Department on the Status of Women, to provide a gender lens to the hearing.

Please inform us of forward movement on this item and details about the hearing when it is scheduled.

If you have any questions about these recommendations or anything related to the Youth Commission, please don't hesitate to contact our office at (415) 554-6446.



Nicholas Persky

2013-2014 Youth Commission Chair

Adopted by Youth Commission April 7th, 2014