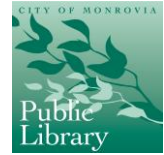




**CITY OF MONROVIA
LIBRARY BOARD
YOUTH SERVICES PROGRAM REPORT**



DEPARTMENT: Community Services
Library Division

MEETING DATE: August 27, 2015

PREPARED BY: Elizabeth Schneider,
Youth Services Librarian II

AGENDA LOCATION: AR-1

TITLE: 2014-2015 Teen Advisory Board (TAB) Evaluation

OBJECTIVE: To provide the Library Board with the annual evaluation of the 2014-2015 Teen Advisory Board.

BACKGROUND: The Teen Advisory Board (TAB) was formed in June 2009 for sixth through twelfth grade teens to plan events for the Library, offer volunteer services, make suggestions for purchasing teen books, movies, and CDs, and help plan fundraisers. TAB members get involved in the community via City events such as the Annual Arbor Day celebration and establish relationships with other teens and non-parental adult role models.

Librarians feel that it is important to encourage teens from different backgrounds to join TAB in order to garner a wider range of program suggestions. Staff uses this feedback to provide programs and materials that will attract a variety of teens from across the community. The TAB program encourages lifelong library use and gives teens a sense of empowerment via their suggestions for programs and services.

ANALYSIS: The members of TAB come from all walks of life and from different schools in the area. Some schools that are represented are Monrovia High School, Santa Fe Middle School, Clifton Middle School, area private schools, and home schools. To join, teens must fill out an application and waiver, and both documents must be signed by their parent or guardian. The waiver is a formal document approved by the City of Monrovia, asking for emergency medical information and photo release approval, and is kept on file for one year.

Librarians visited Clifton and Santa Fe middle schools in December 2014 and May 2015, talking to every English class. During these visits, teens learned about new books to read and were encouraged to become a member of TAB and Summer Reading Club volunteers. Outreach to teens expanded to Canyon Oaks High School this year. A librarian visited regularly to speak to an English class and discuss topics the students were interested in. Through a generous donation from the Friends of the Monrovia Public Library, books were purchased and given out to encourage recreational reading. The following information is an overview of the 2014-2015 TAB program:

- 1. Members:** TAB had 164 members enrolled from July 2014 to May 2015, as compared to 161 members the previous year. Participation has grown at Santa Fe Middle School in part because of the strong partnership with teachers that have developed from continued outreach efforts of staff. School staff asked for a librarian to attend the Santa Fe Awards night at the end of the school year to promote reading throughout the summer and joining the Summer Reading program.

AR-1

The following is a comparison of each school's student representation over a three year period.

TAB MEMBER SCHOOLS			
Schools	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015
Clifton Middle School	42	33	24
Santa Fe Middle School	15	19	33
Monrovia High School	63	70	71
Canyon Oaks School	0	0	2
Arcadia Schools	11	9	6
Private Schools	9	17	12
Home School	5	5	6
Duarte Schools	3	4	7
San Gabriel Schools	1	1	0
Alhambra Schools	1	0	1
Pasadena Schools	0	2	2
Pomona Schools	0	0	0
San Marino Schools	0	0	0
Sierra Madre Schools	3	1	0
Total TAB Members	153	161	164

The following information is a comparison of grade level enrollment over a three year period.

TAB MEMBER GRADES			
Grade	2012-13	2013-2014	2014-2015
Grade 6	11	11	15
Grade 7	31	26	28
Grade 8	32	34	24
Grade 9	32	28	31
Grade 10	18	34	23
Grade 11	12	15	27
Grade 12	17	13	16
Total TAB Members	153	161	164

2. **TAB Council:** Formal elections were held in April to vote for board members for a term that runs for one year. The 2015-2016 TAB Council consists of a High School President, Vice President, Secretary, Middle School President, Director of Volunteers, and two Co-Directors of Programs. The seven member council led the Teen Advisory Board members every month. TAB meetings and events were supervised by Library Staff members.
3. **Programs:** TAB held a variety of teen events during the past year, including monthly 80's movie night, the Creepy Canyon Night Hike in partnership with the Park Rangers, scavenger hunts, chocolate tasting, a how-to get into Medical School workshop, a pizza taste-off, a mini-maker space, Disney karaoke, and a Doctor Who party. The most popular was the Doctor Who Party with 40 participants and an average of 25 teens at all of the other events.
4. **Projects:** Members volunteered their time to represent TAB at Library Board meetings and City Council meetings, assisted with Adult Services and Youth Services programs. TAB members were the leads for

the monthly STEAM experiments and summer family LEGO programs. They were in charge of implementing the program, crowd management, set up and clean up. In November, members put together the Holiday Food Drive and partnered with Santa Anita Family Services. TAB members brought in food, promoted the program to their friends and family, and talked about it at school. Over 100 lbs of food were collected. Members are hoping to have more locations than the library next year.

5. **Collaboration:** TAB partnered with the Recreation Division Youth Commission (YC) to volunteer at the following City Events: the MAP Neighborhood Conference, Spring Egg Hunt, Arbor Day, Mother's Day Home Tour, and the City Halloween event. In February, TAB collaborated with the Monrovia Duarte Black Alumni Association to host a teen event for Black History Month. They watched the *Watsons Go to Birmingham* based on the book by Christopher Paul Curtis. Tim Fisher, from the Black Alumni Association, answered questions about the tragedy and spoke about what Monrovia was like during that time. Thirty-three teens watched the movie and participated in the discussion afterwards.
6. **Volunteer hours:** Last year, TAB members volunteered 2,797 hours compared to the previous year of 3,580 hours. The number of members stayed about the same but the number of hours significantly decreased. This is a result of fewer youth programs offered by the Library because of lower staffing levels, and the elimination of No Shush Wednesday due to lack of community need. The necessity for No Shush Wednesday is re-evaluated at the beginning of every school year.
7. **Recognition:** Community Services held a TAB/YC semi-formal dinner party in the lobby of the Library to recognize all the teen volunteers for their service this past year on Thursday, June 11. Graduating seniors were recognized, and awards for TAB and Youth Commission Volunteers of the Year were presented. Each YC and TAB member who volunteered a minimum of 45 hours were eligible to attend the Knott's Berry Farm excursion on June 13. Fourteen TAB members reached the goal and were invited on the trip. TAB members will also be honored with the annual Library sleepover which will take place in September.
8. **Youth Volunteers of the Year:** The Youth Volunteers of the Year were announced at the Community Services TAB/YC semi-formal dinner party. The recipients were Alexis Silva, David Herrera and Ethan Fisk. Alexis Silva has volunteered 270 hours to the Library since 2009, and helped with many city events. David Herrera is a big supporter and promoter of the Library teen programs, and dedicated his time to running No Shush Wednesday. Ethan Fisk currently serves as the Co-Director of Programs and was instrumental in the creation of 80's Movie Night, the most popular teen program in TAB history.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT: There is no environmental impact associated with this program.

FISCAL IMPACT: During the year of 2014-15, 164 TAB members contributed 2,797 hours of volunteer service. This volunteer support saved the Library \$25,173.00, compared to the previous year of \$32,220.00. This figure is based on a starting wage of \$9.00 per hour for a Library Page.

PROGRAM BENEFITS:

1. The Teen Advisory Board serves as the voice of local youth in the Monrovia Public Library.
2. The Teen Advisory Board's volunteer efforts saved the Monrovia Public Library \$25,173.00 in part-time staff costs last fiscal year.
3. TAB members develop and implement monthly teen programming for community teens.
4. More children's library programming, such as the summer STEAM series and family LEGO programs were made available to patrons because teen volunteers managed the events.

PROGRAM IMPACTS:

1. The Teen Advisory Board remains an unbudgeted program and Staff seeks program funding from the Friends of the Monrovia Public Library to offset supplies. In 2014-2015, the Friends of the Monrovia Public Library donated \$2,400.00 for programming materials, snacks, and supplies.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Staff recommends TAB focus on technology, working towards making volunteer opportunities and information more accessible electronically and increase teen STEAM programming.
2. Staff recommends TAB create a welcome packet and a 'welcome team' to embrace new members into this cohesive team.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends the Library Board move to receive and file AR-1 2014-15 Teen Advisory Board (TAB) Evaluation.

LIBRARY BOARD ACTION REQUIRED: If the Library Board concurs, the appropriate action would be to motion to: *Receive and file, AR-1 2014-15 Teen Advisory Board (TAB) Evaluation.*

AR-1