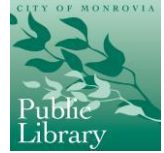




**CITY OF MONROVIA
LIBRARY BOARD
YOUTH SERVICES PROGRAM REPORT**



DEPARTMENT: Public Services, Library Division

MEETING DATE: August 24, 2017

PREPARED BY: Elizabeth Schneider,
Youth Services Supervisor

AGENDA LOCATION: AR-1

TITLE: 2016-2017 Teen Advisory Board (TAB) Evaluation

OBJECTIVE: To provide the Library Board with the annual evaluation of the 2016-2017 Teen Advisory Board.

BACKGROUND: The Teen Advisory Board (TAB) was formed in June 2009 for sixth through twelfth grade teens to plan events for themselves and their peers at the Library, offer volunteer services, and make suggestions for purchasing teen books, movies, and music. 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. The 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.

The governing TAB Board has moved into a stronger leadership role in creating and implementing teen programs, and participating in outreach to promote their group at schools and City events.

The following information is an overview of the 2016-2017 TAB program:

- 1. Members:** TAB had 175 members enrolled from June 2016 to May 2017, as compared to 192 members the previous year. Participation increased for incoming 6th grade, but decreased for all other grades including a large dip in participation at the 12th grade level. Librarians focused on attracting a younger crowd to grow as leaders in TAB to make up for the large senior graduating class last year. Teachers in the middle schools are strong advocates for the Teen Advisory Board, and constantly refer students to join the program. Interest has also developed with students in neighboring school districts, who are attracted to the year round structured volunteer program.

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

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TAB MEMBER SCHOOLS			
Schools	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017
Clifton Middle School	24	27	43
Santa Fe Middle School	33	33	28
Monrovia High School	71	93	65
Canyon Oaks School	2	2	1
Arcadia Schools	6	11	14
Private Schools	12	9	10
Home School	6	4	5
Duarte Schools	7	4	3
San Gabriel Schools	0	0	1
Alhambra Schools	1	2	0
Pasadena Schools	2	3	1
Pomona Schools	0	0	0
San Marino Schools	0	0	0
Sierra Madre Schools	0	0	1
Altadena Schools	0	1	1
Burbank Schools	0	1	1
Temple City Schools	0	1	0
Hacienda Heights Schools	0	1	1
Total TAB Members	164	192	175

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

TAB MEMBER GRADES			
Grade	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017
Grade 6	15	9	32
Grade 7	28	31	25
Grade 8	24	36	27
Grade 9	31	38	27
Grade 10	23	23	27
Grade 11	27	24	21
Grade 12	16	31	16
Total TAB Members	164	192	175

2. **TAB Council:** Formal elections were held in April to vote for board members for a term that runs for one year. The 2016-2017 TAB Council consisted of a High School President, Vice President, Secretary, Middle School President, Director of Volunteers, and Directors of Programs. The six 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 movie nights, Board Game Night, Libraryland Olympics, Grease Sing Along, Horror Movie Double Feature, Winter Relay Fest, a Readers Theatre workshop series, Teen Tech Fest, and Mystery Night where teens wrote the script and acted out the parts like the movie Clue. The most popular was Zombie Laser Tag with 47 participants and an average of 26 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 Fall Saturday family LEGO programs. They were in charge of implementing the program, crowd management, set up and clean up, as well as designing building challenges for each weekend.
5. **Collaboration:** TAB partnered with the Recreation Division Youth Commission (YC) to volunteer at the following City Events: the 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 a movie about the Little Rock Nine. Tim Fisher, from the Black Alumni Association, spoke about what Monrovia was like during the 60's and answered questions. Teens watched the movie and participated in the discussion afterwards.
6. **Volunteer hours:** Last year, TAB members volunteered 3,266 hours compared to the previous year of 2,324 hours. The number of members decreased, but the number of hours increased dramatically. The hiring of two youth librarians increased programming for the public and therefore teen volunteer opportunities to support these programs.
7. **Recognition:** Each TAB member who volunteered a minimum of 50 hours was invited to attend a joint recognition party with the Youth Commission to play Laser Tag at the Ultrazone. Twenty-two TAB members reached the goal and were invited on the trip.
8. **Youth Volunteers of the Year:** The Youth Volunteers of the Year were announced at the Teen Advisory Board Appreciation Celebration. The recipients were Ani Hambarzumian, Megan Matthiesen, Wendy Woerner, Kate Samaniego, and Logan DeBetta. Ani volunteered the most time this year, 116.5 hours, and was new to this organization as a sixth grader. Kate was a close second with 97.5 volunteer hours and has moved into leadership positions in the last two years. Wendy has served as a member since 2012 and helped to create Teen Coffee Night for teens to show their talents in a nonjudgemental space. Logan is one of the most dependable members and makes sure baby toys are cleaned every Wednesday. Since sixth grade, Megan has helped with the creation of programs, including developing the Hunger Games Challenge, writing the Mystery Night script, and refereeing Dodgeball Matchups.
9. **Outcomes:** Teens participate in TAB for many reasons ranging from accruing community service hours for school or looking for afterschool activities. To retrieve this outcome information, all seniors were asked to complete an exit survey. When asked how participation in TAB has changed their lives for the better, one teen commented: 'Before TAB I didn't like trying new things, and working with people I hardly knew. But in the time that I have been in TAB, it made me a new person in which I no longer had fear of doing things that might be a new experience.' Besides gaining confidence, teens also commented on the altruistic element of participation in the volunteer program – 'You feel a great joy knowing you're doing this program or event that will bring smiles and joy to families and friends and people from around Monrovia.'

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

FISCAL IMPACT: During the year of 2016-17, 175 TAB members contributed 3,266 hours of volunteer service. This volunteer support saved the Library \$39,192.00, compared to the previous year of \$27,888.00. This figure is based on a starting wage of \$12.00 per hour for a Library Aide.

The TAB program is funded by donations from the Friends of the Monrovia Public Library. All programming supplies, snacks and materials are purchased in an effort to create experiences for community teens. Expenditures include snacks for the monthly meeting and 1 to 2 programs per month, as well as supplies for each program. Example supplies include new strategic board games for Game Night, hula hoops and pool noodles for Libraryland Olympics, and supplies for doodle bots and shoebox projectors for the Teen Tech Fest. Part of the budget goes to recognition at the end of the year. This includes an Appreciation Party for all TAB members, and admission to Laser Tag for those that volunteer over 50 hours in the year. Plaques for Volunteers of the Year are also purchased.

PROGRAM BENEFITS:

1. The Teen Advisory Board serves as the voice of local youth in the Monrovia Public Library and a leadership opportunity for teen growth.
2. The Teen Advisory Board's volunteer efforts saved the Monrovia Public Library \$39,192.00 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 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 2016-2017, the Friends of the Monrovia Public Library donated \$1,500.00 for programming materials, snacks, and supplies.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Staff recommends the TAB governing board develop an introductory packet to onboard new members in a structured and welcoming way.
2. Staff recommends TAB establish a better partnership with the Youth Commission by generating social events for both groups to interact.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends the Library Board provided feedback on the TAB program and move to receive and file AR-1 2016-17 Teen Advisory Board (TAB) Evaluation.

LIBRARY BOARD ACTION REQUIRED: If the Library Board concurs, the appropriate action would be in motion to: *Provided feedback on the TAB program and receive and file, AR-1 2016-17 Teen Advisory Board (TAB) Evaluation.*

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