



SOUTH SAN ANTONIO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Agenda Item Summary

Meeting Date: May 18, 2026

Agenda Section: Consent

Agenda Item Title: MOU between South San Antonio ISD and Empower House for school year 2026-2027

From/Presenters: Dr. Gutierrez, Deputy Superintendent

Additional Presenters, if applicable: Rebecca Herrera, Head Start program Administrator

Description: The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is to establish a collaborative working relationship that can assist with servicing Head Start/Early Childhood students with a parenting program based on student and family needs to ensure access to referrals and support services. Empower House is a non-profit organization that provides community health services and education, advocacy opportunities, and youth programming – all through the lens of restorative justice.

Historical Data: South San Antonio and Empower House have partnered and served the SSAISD community since the 2019-2020 school year.

Recommendation: Approve the Memo of Understanding between South San Antonio ISD and Empower House for the 2026-2027 school year.

Purchasing Director and Approval Date: N/A

Goal 3: SSAISD will ensure all students are provided a learning environment centered on their well-being that impacts their learning and success.

Goal 4: SSAISD will collaborate with parents and the community to ensure all students receive a high quality education.

Funding Budget Code and Amount: No compensation or exchange of funds between parties as a result of the MOU.



SOUTH SAN ANTONIO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Early Childhood & Head Start

5622 Ray Ellison Blvd :: San Antonio :: Texas :: 78242 :: (210) 977-7365 :: Fax (210) 939-1630

Empower House SA

South San Antonio Independent School District

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

2026-2027

WHEREAS, South San Independent School District and Empower House through this Memorandum of Understanding indicate a commitment and dedication to the implementation of the goals and objectives; and,

WHEREAS, each signatory to this MOU will make significant contributions to the building of protective factors, reduction of risks for abuse /neglect and strengthening of parents and families in the Bexar County community.

NOW, THEREFORE, it is hereby entered into by and between the Partners as signed below:
South San Antonio Independent School District will:

Refer families and their children to the Empower House for parent and youth skills training, or case management.

Provide use of facilities for Empower House's clients, which may include, but not be limited to, classroom space for parenting education and/or childcare, South San Antonio Independent School District agrees to provide this space for 3 hours during parenting educational sessions.

Assist with publicizing the purpose and availability of the Empower House services by distributing information about the program through various venues as deemed appropriate by the organization's governing body.

Additional collaboration as jointly agreed upon in the future by both parties.

Empower House will:

Accept all eligible referrals from South San Antonio Independent School District and will provide them with the following services;

Empower House services may include individual or family counseling, parent and youth training education, case management and mobility mentoring, digital literacy trainings, reproductive health workshops, healthy pregnancy classes, resources and referrals to support services within the community, transportation assistance; basic needs support in times of crisis (assistance obtaining food, formula, diapers, etc.), presentations, and other supportive services; and

Abide by all rules of use for South San Antonio Independent School District facilities, including times of entry and exit.

TERM OF AGREEMENT, this MOU shall be in effect until May 31, 2027



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South San Antonio Independent School District or Empower House may terminate this agreement at any time and for any reason, without penalty. The terms of this MOU may not be altered without the written consent of both parties.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this Agreement is executed effective this __1st__ day of __June__ 2026.

South San Antonio Independent School District

Empower House San Antonio

Dr. Saul Hinojosa
Superintendent of Schools SSAISD
Date _____

Jennifer Castro
Executive Director
Date _____