




OFFICE OF MAYOR SAM ADAMS
CITY OF PORTLAND

DATE: September 10, 2009

TO: Auditor LaVonne Griffin-Valade

FROM: Mayor Sam Adams 

SUBJECT: Summer Youth Corps Report to Council (September 16, 2009)

This is an official request to place the Portland Multnomah Youth Corps Report on the Agenda for the Portland City Council meeting on September 16, 2009. The Youth Corps is a four-year series of interventions for targeted high school students during the crucial summer months. Each year, students will receive progressively more intensive academic support and career experiences as they move toward graduation and into higher education, training, and jobs.

This summer the Youth Corps initiative was launched in collaboration with Multnomah County Chair Ted Wheeler, the Portland Schools Foundation, and Worksystems Inc. Portland City Council will hear from program staff, community partners, and youth that participated in the following programs:

Career + College Exploration: Connects students with the academic support and life experiences to start high school on the right track. Nearly 500 students attended weekly hands-on tours and connecting with employees at a broad range of career sites. In addition, they visited colleges, apprenticeship programs and other post-secondary training sites across the region.

Credit Recovery + Internships (PILOT): Allows students to get back on track through credit recovery and valuable work experience. Thirty-five students attended summer school and job skills training, with twenty-five students continuing on to a 6-week paid internship in City Bureaus.

SummerWorks: Exposes young people to the workplace, enhances academic skills and increases marketable skills to help make informed career choices. Through Federal Recovery Act Stimulus Funding (ARRA), Worksystems, Inc. was able to serve 1,165 students in Multnomah and Washington Counties through its network of Youth Provider Agencies. Participants were placed in work sites across the region, typically for 10-weeks of paid work experience.