



## **Travis County Commissioners Court Agenda Request**

**Meeting Date:** January 22, 2013

**Prepared By/Phone Number:** Josie Zavala, County Judge's Office

**Elected/Appointed Official/Dept. Head:** Samuel T. Biscoe, County Judge

**Commissioners Court Sponsor:** Samuel T. Biscoe, County Judge

**AGENDA LANGUAGE:**

APPROVE PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING THE MONTH OF JANUARY 2013 AS "MENTORING MONTH" IN TRAVIS COUNTY.

**BACKGROUND/SUMMARY OF REQUEST AND ATTACHMENTS:**

Attached Proclamation.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:**

**ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES:**

n/a

**AGENDA REQUEST DEADLINE:** All agenda requests and supporting materials should be submitted as a pdf to the County Judge's office, [agenda@co.travis.tx.us](mailto:agenda@co.travis.tx.us) by Tuesdays at 5:00 p.m. for the next week's meeting.

# *Travis County Commissioners Court*



# *Proclamation*

WHEREAS, the education of the children of Travis County, Texas is one of the most important priorities in the county because that education will prepare our children to be future leaders, scientists, doctors, scholars, citizens, judges and County Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, all elementary, middle and high school students living in Travis County benefit greatly when community volunteers work in their schools; and

WHEREAS, teachers and staff in Austin, Pflugerville, Del Valle and Eanes Independents School Districts welcome the involvement of community volunteers; and

WHEREAS, community volunteers working in schools are known to improve the attendance, the academic performance, the behavior, and the overall atmosphere of schools that help students envision their individual and academic goals, model effective study habits, improve students' organizational skills, assist students with homework and test preparation, and encourage them to pursue high levels of achievement; and

WHEREAS, Austin Partners in Education and the Seedling Foundation have developed programs which can be customized to support both community volunteers and children; and

WHEREAS, Travis County has an estimated 4,700 children who have one or both parents who are incarcerated and who are six to ten times more likely than their peers to end up in the juvenile or adult justice systems; and

WHEREAS, many children in Travis County schools require intensive support and encouragement that can be best provided in a small group setting...

THEREFORE, the Commissioners Court of Travis County hereby expresses its support of these programs, honors the community volunteers who give unselfishly of their time and their gifts, and declares January as Mentoring Month in Travis County. The Commissioners Court encourages Travis County employees to volunteer to work with students in such programs and instructs supervisors of employees to allow Travis County employees to use a flexible approach to their

daily schedule so that volunteering in our community's schools would be possible. The Commissioners court further invites all elected and appointed officials of Travis County both to participate themselves as volunteers in the schools and to encourage the employees in their offices to become involved as mentors or classroom coaches.

SIGNED AND ENTERED THIS \_\_\_\_\_ DAY OF JANUARY, 2013.

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SAMUEL T. BISCOE  
Travis County Judge

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RON DAVIS  
Commissioner, Pct. 1

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SARAH ECKHARDT  
Commissioner, Pct. 2

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GERALD DAUGHERTY  
Commissioner, Pct. 3

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MARGARET J. GÓMEZ  
Commissioner, Pct. 4