

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY
OF MESA, ARIZONA, ESTABLISHING THE MESA
EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
ROUNDTABLE.

WHEREAS, pursuant to Arizona Revised Statutes (“A.R.S.”) § 9-500.11, the City Council may spend public monies for and in connection with economic development activities including projects, assistances, undertakings, programs, or studies that the City Council found and determined will assist in the creation or retention of jobs or will otherwise improve or enhance the economic welfare of the inhabitants of Mesa.

WHEREAS, the City Council finds and determines that continual improvement and development of education and career opportunities and higher educational attainment in Mesa will enhance the economic welfare of Mesa’s residents because a better educated and more career-prepared population leads to higher wages, expanded economic opportunities, a more competitive workforce, and a stronger local economy.

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to advance Mesa’s education and workforce development goals, including increasing and maintaining enrollment in education, vocational, and trade programs; improving completion rates of education, vocational, and trade programs; achieving higher educational attainment, including increased attainment of professional certifications and licenses and postsecondary degrees; expanding career opportunities; and building a competitive and strong local workforce.

WHEREAS, the City Council recognizes and desires to continue the important efforts and progress made to date to improve education and develop the workforce in Mesa, including the work of the Early Learning Network and Mesa K-Ready, focused on early childhood education, and the Mesa Achieves Higher Education Task Force and Mesa Counts on College, focused on postsecondary education.

WHEREAS, the City Council finds and determines that creation of the Mesa Education and Workforce Development Roundtable will assist in the creation or retention of jobs and will improve or enhance the economic welfare of Mesa’s residents by serving as a centralized body comprised of experts in education, business leaders, nonprofit organizations, and Mesa residents, tasked with the ongoing responsibilities of analyzing education and workforce development in Mesa, recommending to the City Council strategies to advance Mesa’s education and workforce development goals, and tracking Mesa’s progress in achieving those goals.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MESA, ARIZONA, AS FOLLOWS:

I. CREATION

The City Council of the City of Mesa, Arizona (the “Council”), hereby creates the Mesa Education and Workforce Development Roundtable (the “Roundtable”) as set forth in this Resolution.

II. PURPOSE AND MISSION

The purpose and mission of the Roundtable is to serve as a centralized body reporting to the Council which will streamline and coordinate efforts to advance Mesa’s education and workforce development goals, including but not limited to: (1) increasing and maintaining enrollment in education programs, including in early childhood, vocational, trade, and postsecondary education programs; (2) improving completion rates of education, vocational, and trade programs; (3) achieving higher educational attainment, including increased attainment of professional certifications and licenses and postsecondary degrees; (4) expanding job opportunities; and (5) building successful careers, a competitive workforce, and a strong local economy. The Roundtable will work in partnership with experts in education, business leaders, nonprofit organizations, and Mesa residents to advance these goals.

III. MEMBERSHIP

A. Composition. The Roundtable will be comprised of seventeen (17) members: eight (8) standing members and nine (9) appointed members, as set forth below.

B. Standing members.

1. A person holding a position specified in this Subsection is automatically a member of the Roundtable by virtue of their position.
 - a. Superintendent of Mesa Public Schools or designee.
 - b. Superintendent of Gilbert Public Schools or designee.
 - c. Superintendent of Queen Creek Unified School District or designee.
 - d. Superintendent of Higley Unified School District or designee.
 - e. President of Mesa Community College or designee.
 - f. President of Arizona State University or designee.
 - g. President of Benedictine University or designee.
 - h. President of Mesa Chamber of Commerce or designee.
2. The term of a standing member will coincide with that member’s respective term of office in a position specified in Section III(B)(1). Upon a member’s resignation or removal from a position specified in Section III(B)(1), the term as a member of the Roundtable will cease. At that time, the successor to the respective position will become a member of the Roundtable, occupying the place of the former member.

C. Appointed members.

1. Nine (9) people selected from the following categories will be appointed to the Roundtable by the Mayor and approved by the Council.
 - a. One (1) or two (2) members of the Council.
 - b. One (1) member of the Mesa Public Schools Governing Board.
 - c. One (1) to three (3) people who are each either: an executive director of an education focused nonprofit organization located in Arizona or designee; an early learning expert; or a professional in the field of diversity and inclusion.
 - d. One (1) or two (2) executives of businesses with Mesa offices or locations or designees.
 - e. One (1) educator currently employed at a school district or postsecondary education institute serving Mesa residents. This member must be a resident of Mesa.
 - f. One (1) parent or legal guardian of a student enrolled at a school district serving Mesa residents. This member must be a resident of Mesa.
2. Terms of appointed members will be staggered terms of three (3) years. An appointed member may not serve more than two (2) complete consecutive terms; however, an appointed member may be reappointed after the lapse of three (3) years.

D. Officers. The Roundtable will have two officers, a Chair and a Vice Chair, who will be selected by the Roundtable from its members. The officers will serve one (1) year terms. No member may serve more than two (2) terms as Chair or two (2) terms as Vice Chair, not including any term filled for the remainder of another member's unexpired term.

E. Designees. If a member is permitted a designee as provided for in Section III(B)(1), Section III(C)(1)(c), or Section III(C)(1)(d), the member may designate a designee by providing to the City Clerk, the Chair, and the Vice Chair, prior to the respective meeting, in writing, the designee's name and title and certification that the designee is authorized to vote on behalf of the member.

F. Absences. Any member or designee who is absent from a meeting, without being excused, may be removed from the Roundtable at the discretion of the Council; however, if any member or designee is absent from three (3) consecutive meetings, without being excused, they shall be considered as having vacated their membership.

G. Compensation. Members will serve without compensation.

- H. Subcommittees. The Roundtable may create subcommittees, appoint members of the Roundtable to subcommittees, and establish the purpose, mission, and responsibilities of subcommittees. Subcommittees will report to the Roundtable.
- I. Arizona law. The Roundtable and any subcommittees are subject to Arizona's conflict of interest laws set forth in Arizona Revised Statutes ("A.R.S.") §§ 38-501 through 38-511; Arizona Public Records Law set forth in A.R.S. §§ 39-121 through 39-161; and Arizona Open Meeting Law set forth in A.R.S. §§ 38-431 through 38-431.09.

IV. RESPONSIBILITIES

The responsibilities of the Roundtable include:

- A. Analyze the education of Mesa residents and the education programs and opportunities available to Mesa residents, including early childhood education, postsecondary education, and vocational, trade, and career programs; advise the Council regarding findings; and make recommendations for the development and improvement of education and vocational, trade, and career programs in Mesa, including means to seek additional funding, increase and maintain enrollment, improve completion rates, and achieve higher educational attainment, including increased attainment of professional certifications and licenses and postsecondary degrees.
- B. Analyze the workforce and economy in Mesa, which may include studying employment rates, wages, career opportunities and successes, and the effects of education and training programs on the workforce; advise the Council regarding findings; and make recommendations for the development and improvement of Mesa's workforce and economy, including means to assist in job creation and retention and to build a stronger and more competitive local workforce and economy.
- C. Other responsibilities delegated by the Council consistent with the purpose and mission of the Roundtable.

V. MEETINGS

- A. The Chair or, in the Chair's absence, the Vice Chair will lead meetings, preserve order at meetings, determine all questions of Roundtable procedure, and endeavor to conduct meetings so as to accomplish its business fairly, yet efficiently. To that end, the Roundtable may adopt rules for the conduct of its business.
- B. Meetings of the Roundtable and any subcommittee must be in the presence of a quorum. Nine (9) members of the Roundtable constitute a quorum. A majority of the members of a subcommittee constitute a quorum. Concurring votes of a majority of the members present at a meeting is required to pass a motion.

- C. Minutes of meetings must be kept. As soon as possible after each meeting, the Roundtable must submit the meeting minutes to the Council.
- D. The Roundtable must meet as often as necessary to accomplish its responsibilities and to advance Mesa's education and workforce development goals; the Roundtable should endeavor to meet once per quarter of each calendar year. The Roundtable must submit a report to the Council as often as necessary to inform the Council of its findings and recommendations; the Roundtable should endeavor to submit a report to the Council annually.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Mesa, Maricopa County, Arizona, this 5th day of April, 2021.

APPROVED:

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk