

**AISD/City of Austin  
Task Force on Hispanic Quality of Life: Education**

**Meeting of December 6, 2005**

**4:00-6:00 p.m.**

**Conference Room A-230**

**AISD Carruth Administration Center**

***Minutes***

Members in Attendance:

Rosie Mendoza, Linda Velasquez, Veronica Rivera (via teleconference)

Others in Attendance:

Janis Guerrero, Eyna Canales-Zarate, Joey Crumley, Justin Fried

Proceedings:

- Members of the task force and support staff introduced themselves.
- Janis Guerrero and Eyna Canales-Zarate went over the task force charge, as laid out by the Joint Subcommittee of the AISD Board of Trustees and City Council. The main points of the charge included:
  - Discussion of challenges in public education and in the community for Hispanic children
  - Analysis of current initiatives, approaches, and best practices
  - Preparation of a final report with recommendations
- Dr. Guerrero and Ms. Canales-Zarate also went over the charter of the task force, which was developed to clarify roles and responsibilities. The main points of the charter included:
  - Consideration of data, literature, and community perspectives
  - Task force has ultimate responsibility for approving and presenting final report
  - AISD and City of Austin leadership will have opportunities for input
  - At least one public forum
  - Final report will be concise, compelling, and easily understood
  - Final report to be made available in English and Spanish
- Joey Crumley went over the work plan and schedule for the task force, which included a minimum of three meetings, one of which would be a public forum. Mr. Crumley explained that the schedule included sufficient time for preparation and review of draft reports, Spanish language translations, and public input.
- Dr. Guerrero and Ms. Canales-Zarate explained that they would like to conduct a number of interviews to gain individual perspectives on important issues. They presented a list of prospective interviewees as well as topics for an interview protocol, and task force members were asked to provide feedback.
- Mr. Crumley briefly went over a proposed outline for the task force report, which consisted of process overview, summary of findings, assessment of priorities, and recommendations for improvement.

- Mr. Crumley then summarized various data that had been collected relevant to the work of the task force. The data were presented on the national, state, and local levels, and were broken down into the areas of population, health, economy, and education.
- Justin Fried summarized various literature that had been reviewed relevant to the work of the task force, focusing on closing achievement gaps. The literature review was broken down into the areas of teacher quality, student treatment and performance, educational support programs, and school reform.
- In conclusion, Dr. Guerrero and Ms. Canales-Zarate announced that for the next meeting of the task force an analysis of the interviews would be presented and discussed to facilitate the determination of priorities.