

**Closing the Gaps P-20 Coalition Meeting
South Plains College/Reese Campus, Bldg. 1
July 26, 2007**

Attendees:	Merva Alaniz	TTU-Library
	Sarah Allen	South Plains Tech Prep
	Robbye Appling	THECB
	Jill Berset	South Plains Tech Prep
	Brenda Cox	WorkSource of the South Plains
	Dianne Crowley	TTU-Intl. Cultural Center
	Andrea Cruse	2-1-1
	Lea Davidson	TTU-Financial Aid
	Sharron Davis	Contact Lubbock
	Tye Duncan	ESC Region 17
	Toni Fanning	TTU-Admissions
	Paul Frazier	LISD Administration
	Michael Gunn	TTU-Student Union Activities
	Beccy Hambright	TTU-Inst. For Child/Family Studies
	Rosa Llanas	LISD-Lubbock High School
	Christy Martinez-Garcia	Latino Lubbock Magazine
	Pam Moore	South Plains Tech Prep
	Michele Moskos	TTU-Outreach & Distance Ed.
	Terri Patterson	Lubbock Eco. Dev. Alliance
	Kimbra Quinn	South Plains College
	Gonzalo Ramirez	LCU-College of Education
	Janie Ramirez	Raiders Rojos/TTU-Education
	Linda Rowntree	ESC Region 17
	Dr. Sheryl Santos	TTU-College of Education
	Fredda Schooler	Morton ISD
	Walter Smith	TTU-College of Education
	Mary Whistler	Ofc. of Rep. Randy Neugebauer
	Dr. Alice White	TTU-Community College Relations
	Suzanne Wills-Sirmons	Literacy Lubbock

Introductions. Dr. Sheryl Santos greeted everyone and had attendees introduce themselves.

P-16 Field Specialist-Change in Personnel

Robbye Appling reported that in June the job description for the P-16 Field Specialist changed and was communicated from the Texas Higher Ed. Coordinating Board. She, Sarah Allen and South Plains Tech Prep staff discussed this matter and decided that switching positions would better fit respective talents and expertise. Appling accepted this position on June 15, 2007. She offered her thanks to Sarah for all she had done for the Coalition during her reign the past year as the P-16 Field Specialist. She expressed her excitement and acceptance of the challenge ahead to help build the partnership and meet the state's goals.

P-16 Summit Review

Robbye Appling shared that the P-16 Summit was held at the Doubletree Hotel in Austin on June 20 and 21, 2007. Several of the coalition members were in attendance: Janie Ramirez, Dr. Alice White, Trenton Cornehl and Marcie Beasley from TTU; Rosa Llanas from Lubbock High School; Kimbra Quinn from SPC; Pam Moore from South Plains Tech Prep; and, Fredda Schooler from Morton ISD. Some of the highlights of the Summit include speeches from Steve Murdock (state demographer) who highlighted population changes and the consequences of reaching educational attainment levels for the coming years; Ray Perryman (economist) who emphasized the economic benefits of attaining the goals of Closing the Gaps; and, Raymund Paredes (Commissioner of Higher Ed. at THECB) who focused on the importance of creating a college-going culture in our communities and the benefits of a well-educated community. There were also regional breakout sessions where gaps in local P-16 efforts were identified and assets were explored. Members were referred to a handout delineating highlights from those breakout sessions. The top needs identified were communication with school districts and colleges about P-20 efforts and funding issues. Appling noted that her intention was to step up communication in the days to come and begin to explore a more formal structure. She noted that the more formal structure would probably help in seeking additional funding for Coalition efforts.

Vision/Mission/Goal Review & Updates

Dr. Santos was asked to serve on a committee with Dr. Paredes, Commissioner of Higher Ed., and others regarding the P-16 goals and how they relate to getting more Latinos in college. She reviewed the highlights of this meeting, noting that Dr. Paredes' vision is to tie state funding for colleges to college graduation rather than enrollment.

Robbye Appling then reviewed the history of the formation of the Coalition, pointing out the current vision, mission, and goals list included in their handouts. Included on the same sheet were the goals of the P-16 efforts at the state level. She noted that the goals for this organization were formed about four years ago, and varied some from the goals of the current organization. She noted that a goal review might be a good future activity, and the membership would be receiving more regular information about our goals and how we are meeting them.

Member Discussion--Community Asset Development

The membership was given a list of the entities the current membership represented. Attendees were asked to review this list and note any other people/entities they knew of that might be recruited. Members were asked to consider the structure suggested by the state when making recommendations: businesses, high schools, colleges/universities, community- and faith-based organizations, and governmental entities.

Coalition Structure

Robbye Appling noted that with the maturity of the membership and the mandates laid out by the state, it might be time to consider a more formal structure for the group. The floor was then opened for suggestions as to what type of structure might be best suited for our needs. The membership was given a list of some of the needs of the Coalition: funding needs, financial structure, "governing body" for ad hoc decision-making, goal review/assessment/measurement, and public relations issues (web site, brochure, PR, newsletter, etc.). It was decided by the

membership to form a subcommittee to review and research structures of other coalitions across the state, consider 501(c)3 status, and review whether an informal structure would work for our Coalition. Monica Barnard from LCU and Fredda Schooler from Morton ISD volunteered to serve on that committee. It was also suggested that members of this subcommittee be representative of the entity structure handed down by the THECB.

Non-Educational Entity Introductions/Contributions

Dr. Alice White suggested that non-educational entities introduce themselves and discuss what their contributions to the coalition would be. Appropriate attendees were allowed to respond.

Meet adjourned.