



DURÓN'S DIGEST

UPDATE FROM SUPERINTENDENT ROBERT J. DURÓN

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Restructuring Plans Take Shape

We reached a significant milestone this past weekend, when the Long-Range Facilities Planning Committee completed its work in drafting three proposals for restructuring the District and improving our schools. In the coming weeks, these draft proposals will be presented to the community at large for input and comment—all with an eye toward allowing the Board of Trustees to adopt a final restructuring plan by fall of 2009.

More details about the three plans will be available within the next week. But I want to take this opportunity to acknowledge and thank both the members of the committee and the Board for the many hours they have put into this restructuring process. It's hard work managing the realities of shifting population patterns while remaining sensitive to the relationships that community members have with their schools. However, in meeting this challenge, we have the opportunity to strengthen academic performance, while making SAISD more fiscally efficient.

Thoughtful input from community leaders is an essential part of that process—and that's exactly what the committee and Board members provided in the quest to bring about a plan to redesign our District. Since this effort began over a year ago, more than 60 local citizens have contributed to the process.

As a result, we have now taken a very important step to ensure that the District can raise the standards of our offerings for the long term. That's really what this restructuring effort is about: It's not simply a matter of consolidating schools; it's a tool for realigning resources so that every school is equipped to provide a well-rounded education—and so that we can strengthen key programs that lead to greater academic achievement and open the door to appealing careers. In short, SAISD's restructuring effort will help to build the foundation for our students' college and career success.

We will provide information as it becomes available about the next phase of the restructuring process—the community meeting and input phase. And we will get the proposals to you very soon. We welcome your participation in that effort, and we appreciate your continued support of the ongoing work to ensure a promising future for all the students we serve.

Best Regards,