



DURÓN'S DIGEST

UPDATE FROM SUPERINTENDENT ROBERT J. DURÓN

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An Update on the Restructuring Plan: Looking Toward the Next Steps

As you may recall, we are now in the final phase of a multi-year effort to develop a plan for restructuring the District, in order to achieve excellence, equity and efficiency for all of our students. This month, the Board of Trustees has been considering a couple of key decisions in that effort, with an eye toward how best to move the process forward.

The first key decision is final approval of the plan itself. In October, the Board gave preliminary approval to a modified version of one of three restructuring proposals that had been developed by a community-based committee. Since that time, the broad outlines of the plan have been refined to incorporate specific opportunities, address facilities-based issues and provide details on academic programs to be enhanced. With most of these refinements now in place, the Board is working toward approving an official version of the plan, which would be implemented over the next 10-12 years.

At the same time, the Board is exploring strategies for conducting a successful bond issue, to fund key elements of the restructuring plan. The bond election could occur as early as November, 2010. One step in this process would be a decision to move forward and create a community-based committee, charged with providing recommendations and feedback in the development of the bond proposal.

Just last month, a public opinion survey (conducted by Baseline & Associates) found that there is support for a potential bond issue: Almost 6 in 10 likely voters residing within the District boundaries said they would favor a bond issue to fund the construction, renovation and equipping of SAISD school buildings. By asking a community-based committee to develop the actual bond proposal, the Board would hope to ensure that the bond campaign fully reflects the community's priorities and concerns.

All of this work is an important part of the ongoing effort to improve academic opportunities across the District. As the process moves forward, we are keeping our eyes fixed on the ultimate goal—namely, excellent schools that prepare our young people well for college and career success. As always, we are grateful for your continued support. Together, we are making a real difference—both for today's students and for the generations to come!

Best regards,