

**Wheaton Cluster Spanish-Language Study Circle  
First Action Group Meeting  
Thursday, May 4, 2006  
Loiederman Middle School**

Attendees: Frank H. Stetson-Community Superintendent  
Nancy Leopold- Executive Director of the College Tracks Program  
Shauna Brown- Teacher, Wheaton HS  
Grace Barnes- School Secretary, Wheaton HS  
Esperanza Barrios- Instructional Assistant, Wheaton HS  
Gladis Martinez- Parent Outreach Coordinator, MCPS Study Circles Program  
Wheaton Roundtables participants:

- Consuelo Caffi-*Wheaton HS, Loiederman MS*
- Blanca Cardona-*Loiederman MS, Weller Road ES, Wheaton HS*
- Delphina Cosme- *Wheaton HS, Veirs Mill ES*
- Marta Medina- *Wheaton HS*
- Jacqueline Moreno- *Parkland MS, Wheaton Woods ES, Wheaton HS*
- Maria Ochoa- *Loiederman MS*
- Maria Suspes- *Wheaton HS*

**I. Issue: A need for more bilingual staff in the Wheaton cluster schools**

*Presenter: Jacqueline Moreno*

**II. Issue: A crossing guard is needed at the intersections of Goodhill Road and Weller Road for the safety of the students**

*Presenter: Blanca Cardona*

*Response by Dr. Frank Stetson:* Crossing guards are a result of discussions with the transportation and police departments

Dr. Stetson will ask the transportation department to investigate this matter.

**III. Issue: There should be training implemented for school bus drivers in how to treat children with respect**

*Presenter: Delphina Cosme*

*Response by Dr. Frank Stetson:* The school bus drivers are currently going through training on how to treat children better. This is a top priority for the community. It is an ongoing process.

**IV. Issue: The Wheaton HS students need better sports uniforms**

*Presenter: Delphina Cosme*

*Response by Dr. Frank Stetson:* The uniforms are rotated over a period of time, all of the sports teams are involved in the rotations. (ex. the basketball team will get new uniforms one year and another year the soccer team will get new uniforms) Schools that have more athletic revenue can make the uniform rotations faster.

Dr. Stetson will look into the Wheaton HS uniform matter.

**V. Issue: There should be more alternatives to suspension of Wheaton HS students (ex. The “Sharp” Program) so they do not see suspension as a vacation**

*Presenter: Maria Suspes*

*Response by Dr. Frank Stetson:* The “Sharp” suspension program was in effect at Wheaton HS, however it was removed because of the small number of students taking advantage of the program. There was difficulty with parents not being able to admit their students to the program.

Dr. Stetson will look into getting the program re-implemented at Wheaton HS and having the “Sharp” volunteers placed at the high school instead of local churches, so the program can be easily accessible to students.

**VI. Issue: The Wheaton Roundtable Group Resolution → More participation of Hispanic Parents in the PTA**

*Presenter: Marta Medina*

**VII. Issue: Give academically challenged students more opportunities to take part in school sports as an incentive to improve their grades**

*Presenter: Consuelo Caffi*

*Response by Dr. Frank Stetson:* The Board of Education’s policy is that students must have at least a 2.0 grade point average to participate in athletic programs. This issue was recently reviewed by the Board of Education, who decided to renew this policy

There is one exception; new 9<sup>th</sup> grade students coming in from middle school do not have this requirement until after the first quarter of their 9<sup>th</sup> grade year.