



Barton Hills Elementary: Spanish Surveys

Teacher & Parent Survey
Results

Parent Survey Results

- 135 Total Responses; 47% of BHE families responded
- Of those responding, 90%+ supportive, 5% against, and 4% no preference
- Total funds promised from surveys: \$14,800 before sponsorships, PTA help or incoming kinder round-up tuition
- Timeline for implementation: 95% voted ASAP or by Fall 2011
- New questions/comments from surveys

Teacher Survey Results

- 17 Total Responses; 19 grade level teachers and 14 other staff invited to participate
- 94% believe foreign language is important at elementary level
- 71% support Spanish at BHE
- 71% want TEKS covered
- 29% open to talking to other teachers/schools
- 94% want Certified Teacher
- 41% willing to help develop program

School Comparisons

SCHOOL	TUITION AVG.	PTA HELP	FUNDRAISERS	CERTIFIED TEACHER	TEKS	Program Yrs.
Bryker Woods						
Casis	\$90	Y	Carnival	Y	Y	13
Gullet		Y-100%	All fundraisers	N	N	5
Highland Park	\$110	Y	several	Y	N	6
Lee Elementary	\$50-\$100	Y	All fundraisers	N	N	
Mills	\$110	No	coupon books	Y	N	10
Pease		Y				
Travis Heights						
Will Davis	\$0		N/A	Parent Volunteer	N	
Zilker	\$125	Y	All fundraisers	Y	N	0.2

SEC Curriculum Sub-Committee

- **Valerie Lopez-Stern** – BA in Spanish, MA in Latin American Studies, Bilingual Educator, Parent–Child Educator
- **Liz Gershoff** – Ph.D. in Childhood Development, Associate Professor in Dept. of Human Development and Family Sciences at the University of Texas, Research Associate for 5 yrs. at National Center for Children in Poverty at Columbia University, NYC
- **Gena Billeaud** -- Bilingual Educator
- **Kirsten Nottleson** – BA in Early Childhood Education, Parent/Child Consultant Business, Parent Educator 15 yrs.
- **Beatriz Mejia** – BA in Spanish, MA in Foreign Languages, taught High School Spanish for 6 yrs.

Next Steps:

- Fundraising – When to start and how to proceed? Enlisting help from Melissa Abel on non-profit fundraising techniques.
- Schedule meeting with teachers – share research and establish teacher partners
- Develop curriculum and schedule
- Research Spanish teacher candidates

Questions and Comments:

- Level of contribution would depend on extent and quality of program.
- If Spanish class begins at elementary level, would this count for middle school credits?
- This is a really big commitment and I'm nervous that people say they will give and then don't.
- There are more valuable languages to learn than Spanish.
- How many days/hours for class? What will be given up?
- PTA to fund 100%
- If our income increased, we would donate more.
- Interested to see how other schools manage it; worried about taking time from core subjects. Don't want to have Spanish just to say we do it.
- When we neglect to teach foreign languages in the primary years, we forever lose that window. Much more difficult to learn in middle school.
- We previously attended a bilingual school, and although it was challenging initially, we saw incredible advancement in the ability to navigate between the two languages, even with no home speakers.
- How will this work with specials?
- Will there be homework?
- Does this make a difference in middle school Spanish performance?
- How will this affect students who struggle with English instruction?
- This is an important academic addition; we should have it at BHE.