Latino Parental Involvement

Testimony for AB 394, Technical Advisory Committee

Magdalena Martinez, March 28, 2015



Exhibit L - CCSD Tech Adv Document consists of 12 pages. Entire exhibit provided. Meeting Date: 03-28-16

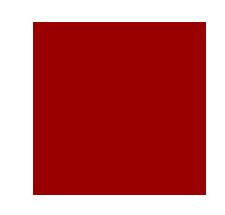
Overview

- Little research what constitutes Latino parental involvement
- Dr. Maria Estela Zarate (2007), Understanding Latino Parental Involvement in Education; Tomas Rivera Policy Center, USC
- Examined school in Miami, Los Angeles, and New York:
 - Latino parents' and students' perceptions and
 - Teachers expectations.
- Dr. Magdalena Martinez, Southern Nevada Latino Parents and Students (2009, in progress)
- Policy recommendations



Parents Perceptions of Parental Involvement (Zarate, 2007)

- Academic Involvement: activities associated with homework, educational enrichment and academic performance
- Life Participation: ways that parents provided life education (educacion) and is holistically integrated into their children's lives in school





Parents' Definitions of Parental Involvement (Zarate, 2007)

Academic Involvement

- Attend parent-teacher conferences
- Sign homework
- Know when to expect report cards
- Ask about homework daily
- Visit classroom
- Have high standards for academic
- Go to library

Life Participation

- Be aware of child's life
- Be aware of peer groups and interact with peer parents
- Teach good morals & respect
- Communicate with child
- Provide general encouragement
- Discuss future planning
- Monitor school attendance
- Get to know teachers to access safety

Students' Perceptions of Parental Involvement (Zarate, 2007)

Not directly related to academic involvement yet important to their academic success

- Telling stories/examples of failure and success
- Giving general encouragement
- Providing discipline
- Monitoring attendance
- Providing transportation



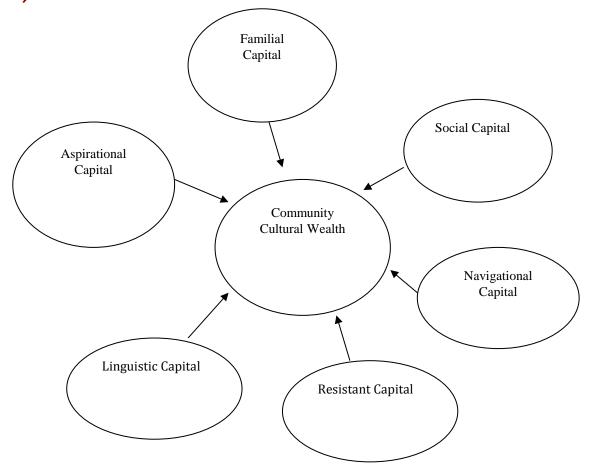
Latino Students & Parents in Southern Nevada



- Parents encouraged their children through consejos, corridos, narratives and other cultural forms of storytelling/counterstories (Martinez, 2009)
- In case studies and focus group students viewed these types of encouragement as legitimate and valid parental involvement of their education (Martinez, 2009)
- In survey research students report teachers provide the most significant academic support, but parents provide the most significant aspirational support (Martinez, Naumann, Saladino, & Levins, in progress)



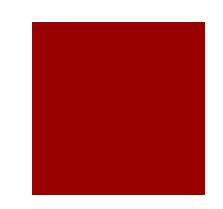
Latino Parents' Contribution to their Children's Education (Yosso, 2005)





Parents' Perceived Challenges (Zarate, 2007)

- Homework assistance
- Communicating with schools
- Work demands
- School policies





Educators' Perceptions of Parental Involvement (Zarate, 2007)

Academic Support

- Helping with homework
- Reviewing report cards
- Making sure homework is complete
- Seeking tutoring for kids
- Staying on top of academics

School Leadership

- Participation in school committees
- PTA membership
- Student Advocacy

Administrative Support

- Sewing curtains for class
- Hosting lunches for faculty
- Fundraising

Survey Results of Overall CCSD Reorganization (Martinez, 2016)

I support the reorganization of the Clark County School District into local precincts IF IT WILL ...

... <u>create more options for parents</u> and student.

■ 87% - Agree or Strongly Agree

... increase state funding.

■ 86% - Agree or Strongly Agree

... encourage different education priorities focused on the specific local needs of communities.

■ 86% - Agree or Strongly Agree

... <u>create positive competition</u> <u>among the precincts</u>.

■ 61% - Agree or Strongly Agree

... <u>allow local precincts to create</u> <u>strategic plans based on the needs</u> <u>of specific communities</u>.

■ 85% - Agree or Strongly Agree

... <u>allow for more parental</u> <u>engagement and participation</u>.

■ 83% - Agree or Strongly Agree

Policy Recommendations

- Rigorous external research of Latino parental involvement:
 - Zoom and Victory Schools, for instance, role of parent involvement facilitator at Zoom Schools;
 - CCSD University of Family Learning (UFL), for instance pre and post evaluation of UFL, short and long term outcomes; and
 - Teacher preparation programs; traditional and ARL.
- Collaborate with external parental involvement initiatives; for instance, Family Leadership Institute
- Greater Spanish-language fluency among staff at schools
- Possible measure in statewide accountability framework



References

- Martinez, M., Naumann, L., Saladino, C., & Levins, M. (in progress).
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- Martinez, M. (2009). The Role of Pre-College Experiences, Environmental Elements, and Cultural Resources and Knowledge on First Year College Experience and Postsecondary Decisions for a Group of Latina/o Students. Retrieved from https://deepblue.lib.umich.edu/bitstream/handle/2027.42/62193/mmzz_1.pdf?sequence=1
- Martinez, M. (2016). Clark County School District Reorganization Survey: Preliminary Findings. Presentation to AB394, Technical Advisory Committee. Retrieved from https://ftp.leg.state.nv.us/interim/78th2015/Committee/Studies/CCSDTechAdv/Other/27-January-2016/AgendaVDMartinezClarkCountyReorganizationSurveyResults1.pd
- Yosso, T. J. (2005). Whose culture has capital? A critical race theory discussion of community cultural wealth. Race Ethnicity and Education, 8(1), 69-91.
- Zarate, M.E. (2007), Understanding Latino Parental Involvement in Education. Tomas Rivera Policy Center, University of Southern California. Retrieved from http://files.eric.ed.gov/fulltext/ED502065.pdf

