

Our last SSAC meeting of the year, was held on December 15 at Pueblo HS, and wrapped up a great 2014. The council's first clothing drive was a major success- every high school brought in an astounding amount of clothing to be donated to the TUSD school clothing bank. I would like to commend both Rincon and Tucson High Schools in particular for their efforts, which went above and beyond our expectations.

On top of that, Dr. Sanchez brought in four members of TUSD's leadership team, Mr. Steve Holmes, Asst. Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction, Dr. Clarice Clash, SR. Director of Curriculum Development, Dr. Holly Freitas, Sr. Director of Assessment and Program Evaluation and Mr. Richard Foster, Sr. Director of Professional Development. This team engaged with students to get their opinions on matters that dealt with curriculum, assessment, and professional development. Among the three groups the students were broken into, there was a lot of good feedback and discussion for the three leaders to consider. It also challenged the students to share not only their own thoughts, but perspectives on behalf of all students in TUSD.

Afterwards, students were given yet another opportunity to share their opinions on TUSD--this time in the world of food. Staff led by Food Service Director Shirley Sokol took the students through a food tasting of items they are looking at offering our students. We tested many different types of dishes and then provided feedback to the staff.

The meeting concluded with an inspirational message from a teacher at Pueblo. All in all, this meeting succeeded in getting SSAC students to contribute to and improve the district, be it in charity, opinions, or food surveys. I look forward to seeing what SSAC accomplishes this next semester, and hope Dr. Sanchez, TUSD leadership and TUSD as a whole benefit from our collaborations as much as the students do.