

## February Board Meeting Report

Leamon Crooms

SSAC President

Good Evening Board Members and Attendees, My name is Leamon Crooms and I am the Superintendent Student Advisory Council President. For those of you who don't know, the Superintendent's Student Advisory Council, or SSAC, is a group composed of student leaders from around the district the meets to discuss the happenings of the district and give Dr. Sanchez the student perspective on them.

We held our fourth SSAC meeting at Tucson High School on January 21. Our meeting focused on re-acquainting our committee after the long break as well as planning the community service projects we will be conducting this year. This meeting we were greeted by a special treat prior to the meeting, Tucson High had their steel drum class play some jams for us. I never thought I'd say this but steel drums and pop music are very good combination.

We started the meeting with a call to order and a few introductory words by the principal of Tucson High, Dr. Shawna Rodriguez. We then took a tour of Tucson High School. We got to see their gardens, state of the art shop class and car maintenance programs, dance classes, and award winning drama teacher, Art Almquist, who was named 2016's Reba R. Robertson Outstanding Teacher of Drama. We then had lunch, during which the Tucson High mariachi band played some beautiful music for us.

We then had a discussion on each of our high schools and why we enjoy attending. Dr. Sanchez spoke to us about our importance in shaping how the district

interacts with its student population. Through our responses, Dr. Sanchez gets a direct understanding of how the district affects its students and what our thoughts are on our schools. Some of the responses given by students on the council as to why they love their school were the variety of courses, sports programs, CTE programs, and school spirit.

After that, we discussed our plans for community service this next year. We decided that we will have two projects this next year. The first one will be a project focused on giving to those who may not have the basic amenities most people do. For the project each school will donate different toiletries that the average person uses like shampoo and toothpaste and we will package these up and give them to middle schools in the district to give to children who may not have basic toiletries and don't have the means to acquire them. The second service activity we decided on was a project through a group called Project Linus. What project Linus does is provide blankets to children in hospital care. We will fund raise for the materials and craft the blankets and then donate them to Project Linus. These service activities were selected because they will have the greatest impact on our community and offer the council an opportunity to directly impact the district that we talk about so much. Through these projects, we hope to encourage the leaders in our council to make a difference. By helping others, we hope to show them that even the smallest of their actions can make a difference.