



## Santa Barbara SCHOOL DISTRICTS

720 Santa Barbara Street, Santa Barbara, CA 93101  
Phone (805) 963-4338, Fax (805) 963-3521  
www.sbsdsk12.org

Date: April 28, 2009  
To: J. Brian Sarvis, Superintendent  
From: Michael J. Gonzalez, Director of Student Services and Compliance  
Subject: Approval of Study Agreement for Evaluation of the Districts' Gang Outreach Program  
Action:  X  (Time Required:  7 minutes )

---

### Background

As directed by the Board on October 14, 2008, staff has been working to construct an outside independent evaluation and analysis of the Districts' Gang Outreach Program.

### Results

Staff contacted various agencies regarding the possibility of conducting an independent evaluation of the Districts' Gang Outreach Program and was directed to Dr. Victor Rios, Assistant Professor of Sociology at the University of California, Santa Barbara. Dr. Rios has considerable teaching and research experience with gangs, juvenile justice, and youth culture.

On March 12, 2009, Dr. Rios submitted to the Districts a study agreement to assess the effectiveness of the services provided by the Districts' outreach worker. The evaluation will measure the student's attachment to school, parents, community and the interactions between students and the outreach worker. Specific measures include: changes in school attendance; grades earned; the number of disciplinary violations; parental attachment; school commitment; percent change in gang membership; percent change in gang-related delinquent behavior; percent change in gang-related violent crimes; percent change in gang-related drug crimes; change in attitudes toward gangs; change in rate of substance use; and change in percentage of gang-related arrests.

### Fiscal Impact

The cost of the study agreement submitted by Dr. Rios is \$26,000. The funding source for the evaluation is carry-over from the Pupil Retention Block Grant previously approved by the Board for the outreach program.

### Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board of Education approve Dr. Rios's study agreement for evaluation of the Districts' Gang Outreach Program.

Adams Elementary School  
Cesar Chavez Charter School  
Cleveland Elementary School  
Franklin Elementary School  
Harding Elementary School

McKinley Elementary School  
Monroe Elementary School  
Open Alternative School  
Peabody Charter School

Roosevelt Elementary School  
Santa Barbara Charter School  
Santa Barbara Community Academy  
Washington Elementary School

Goleta Valley Junior High School  
La Colina Junior High School  
La Cumbre Junior High School  
Santa Barbara Junior High School

Dos Pueblos High School  
La Cuesta Continuation High School  
San Marcos High School  
Santa Barbara High School  
Home School Santa Barbara

Date: March 12, 2009

To: Dr. Brian Sarvis, Superintendent, Santa Barbara School Districts

From: Professor Victor Rios, Chicano Studies Institute, UC Santa Barbara

Re: STUDY AGREEMENT FOR EVALUATION OF THE SANTA BARBARA SCHOOL DISTRICTS GANG INTERVENTION SPECIALIST PROGRAM

### 1. Basis of Agreement

The Santa Barbara School District (from hereon District) has requested that Dr. Victor Rios conduct an evaluation of Gang Intervention Specialist (from hereon GIS) program.

### 2. Scope of the work

The scope and objectives of this study are:

- Assess the effectiveness of the case management and programming provided to students by the GIS, how this position is incorporated into the school district and how it is connected to local social service agencies and organizations. Measurement of GIS progress will entail four components:
  - Pre, Mid-point, and post services questioner with students. The questioner will measure attachment to school, parents and community. Attachment will be measured by asking questions about negative and positive experiences and attitudes about school, home and the community.
  - Interviews with students, parents and teachers about their progress at home and in school and their feelings of connections to school, home and community.
  - Observations of how GIS recruits and interacts with students and addresses individual needs
  - Comparison of pre and post programming student grades, referrals, courses completed, suspensions, attendance and citizenship records.

### 3. Project Personnel

The study team will be managed by Dr. Victor Rios along with graduate students Patrick Lopez-Aguado and Mario Galicia. Other qualified graduate and undergraduate students will also be added to the project.

#### 4. Project Costs

The cost for study requested is expected to be \$26,000:

- a. Data Collection Time
  1. 45 hours will be spent observing the GIS and the students he is targeting.
  2. 30 hours will be spent collecting student data at district and school sites.
  3. 40 hours will be spent meeting with GIS and steering committee
  4. 40 hours will be spent developing data collection instruments
  5. 100 hours will be spent interviewing students and parents.
  6. 120 hours will be spent meeting, planning and analyzing data by research team
  7. 40 hours will be spent completing the preliminary and final report.
- b. All out-of-pocket expenses including meals for study participants, travel etc.
- c. Any changes to the scope will affect the estimate of total cost.

#### 5. Responsibilities of District

- a. The district will provide access to:
  - i. Student records
  - ii. Teachers to interview
  - iii. Parent contact information
  - iv. GIS events/sessions
  - v. Time during the school day and space on campuses to administer questionnaires and interviews