



JUNTOS Youth Summit Planning Meeting
May 4, 2009
LAHS Speech Theater

Minutes

Vision: "JUNTOS, a youth-driven initiative to create a new future through unity, by embracing and valuing all people, communities, and cultures."

Time Started: 6:00 pm

Time Ended: 8:00

(E) Española 9

(P) Pojoaque 3

(L) Los Alamos 8

(SFIS) Santa Fe Indian School 1

(EMA) Espanola Military Academy 1

(A) Adult 8

(Total 30 in attendance)

In Attendance: Jolene Duran (E), Ashley Duran (E), Leandra Gallegos (E), Deonika Patterson (E), Cassandra Casias (E), Andrew Garcia (SFIS), Dulce Avitia (E), Jacqueline Avita (EMA) Peggy Pendergast (A), Ali Hamrayer (L), Michael Lapcevic (A), Sharon Stover (A), Renee Chavez (P), Amber Gomez (P), Reyana Segovia (P), Chris Armstrong (L), Arian Brown (L), Benigno Sandoval (L), Francisco Simbana (A), Mirian Aguirre (A), Maneesha Chitanvis (L), Kayla Arnone (L), Diane Toups (L), Diana Martinez (A), Tatiana Espinoza (E), Tania Espinoza (E), Claudia Espinoza (E), Ben Schilling (L), Lori Heimdahl Gibson (A), Jenn Hanson Bartram (A)

- Introductions and why people joined Juntos
- What is authentic dialogue?: Sharing some of the things that are inside of you that you don't normally share with people. To build bridges with our honest conversation regarding racism and prejudice, and finding ways to listen and support each other. (Came from the workshop on race, racism, and white privilege – Sept. 07)
- A student shared something that happened during the exchange. "One member of JUNTOS made a few comments. He was talking to one guy and girl and they asked him what's the difference between LA and EV. He said there were a lot of Hispanics in the Valley, like it was a negative. This student expressed how proud she is to be "Hispanic."
- Another student said, "Today a teacher told me to go back to where I came from. She went off on another student and was very angry and told me to go back to where I came from. It confused me and it made me very angry. I wanted to punch her, honestly – I sat down and I put my head down and ignored the whole situation."
- One person suggested talking with a counselor and her parents and they will talk with the teacher.
- Another student shared, "My mom has a friend who asked me what music I was listening to. He told me I could not listen to black music in his house. He pointed to a sheet on his window and said that it was from the KKK. He was also saying a lot of racist comments about Mexicans."

- Lori – Referring to planning the summit. . . JUNTOS is grassroots. We get to create what we want – you can talk about what you want in each team and get some ideas to develop in the Summit. A LAYL expression that may be helpful to our discussion– “failure leads to success”

Review 2008 Summit – Brainstorming on what was the best about last years summit.

- Andrew – getting to hear everyone’s story and getting to understand other people. Sharing our experiences was the best.
- Other – the art projects were really important to me
- Kayla and Maneesha – it helped me see that our school isn’t that bad.

(Kayla also went to EVHS for the student exchange – I didn’t feel out of place at all at their high school. It went very smoothly. The family part was really strong. . . . a great family bond.)

- Dulce – fun getting to know everyone and the art.
- Lori – we’ll have 12 youth facilitators and they’ll have an additional training. We’ll probably meet for about 4 hours before the summit. Be in El Rito about 4:30 have a meal and then introductions.

Youth who volunteered to be facilitators at the summit:

Ashley, Jolene, Deonika, Leandra, Tatiana, Claudia, Jackie, Andrew, Tania, Cassandra, Ariana, Reyana, Dulce, Amber Gomez, Chris, Ben Schilling, Victoria Martinez.

Brainstorming:

Liked what we did with Sean Hall at the Teambuilding Workshop in January

Ice breakers

Presentation about Ecuador – three sisters

NM historian

Music from Jose Griego

Campfire – write with (fireworks?)

Smores

Tell the story about the positives with immigration. . . . the story of their lives.

Immigrants who make contributions in US

Everyone coming to the summit should talk to parents before the summit and have them voice what their families story is.

Presentation from Russia trip on Friday, so Dulce can be there.

Games where we can express ourselves with a blind fold so you cannot be shy – like an ice breaker w

What do we want to accomplish at the summit:

- Stronger relationships
- Friends from other schools/communities
- Diana –tools for us to cope with prejudice and racism
- Role plays and techniques on solutions on how to confront situations better.
- Games – dynamic games that you are moving around – dancing
- Talent Show

Dulce shared at story that happened while she was at Nationals – she was sleeping and some youth came in at 2 in the morning, including a guy. He was laughing and woke her up. He kept saying nasty things about Espanola, etc. and wouldn’t stop, so she punched him in the face. She was very mad and said she just had to do it. She expressed how badly she felt for hitting him. She told the teachers and

they didn't do anything even though he came in the girls' room. Dulce later talked with him, and they apologized to each other.

Who will do what action items:

Ashley – banner

Jolene – flyer and make new logo

Andrew – movie and music

Tatiana – evening activities

Claudia – team building and Tania

Leandra – music with Andrew

Diandra and Cassandra – Talk radio

On the 18th we'll assign all the duties.

We would like 2 youth; one from the Valley and one from the Hill to take a leadership role and their will be a stipend; some pay for the position.

Claudia – volunteered but doesn't have a car

Next Summit Planning Meeting is at 6pm at EVHS Main Office– on Monday, May 18th.

Ali – I just want to thank everyone. This is my last meeting, I have been participating in this program since January you have become such close friends for me. I am going to miss you all. I want to say thank you to everyone. I have something for Lori - a book about my country. I have some stuff for people Peggy, Jenn, Lori. The book is for JUNTOS.

Thank you to Ali for his participation in JUNTOS and his wonderful gifts. We will miss him! It was suggested that he start a "JUNTOS" in Turkmenistan and keep in touch with us. JUNTOS seems to becoming international!

Minutes recorded by Jenn Hanson Bartram viewfidnerm@yahoo.com (505) 672-3405