

Region IX P-16 Council

Interim Report

January 30, 2009

“Mañana empieza hoy.”

## Region IX P-16 Deliverables 2008-2009

### Region IX P-16 Council Description:

Our council was formed in June 2007. Our membership is formative; its current composition reflects:

- Administrators from 3 institutions of higher education (Midwestern State University, Vernon College, North Central Texas College);
- Administrators and teachers from 4 area school districts from the 39 in Region 9 (Wichita Falls ISD, Vernon ISD, Iowa Park Consolidated ISD, and Burkburnett ISD) and the Region IX Education Service Center;
- 2 parents;
- Executives from local businesses (AT&T Wireless, Air Tractor, Inc.) and related organizations (North Texas Tech Prep Consortium, Bureau of Commerce and Industry);
- Representatives of civic organizations (WF Community Foundation, Boys and Girls Clubs of Wichita Falls, Hispanic Parent Ministry and Zavala Organization, Community in Schools/21<sup>st</sup> Century),
- Executive Director, hired January 5, 2009.

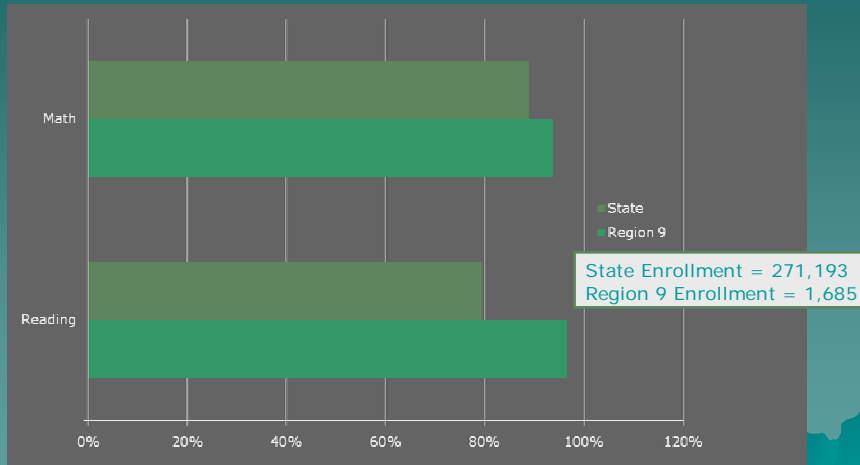
We will have a subgroup meeting with our business partners in February to discuss growing their representation and developing a list of contacts and target groups for presentations.

### Data Points:

The Region IX P-16 Council has received data on 4 data points, and that was limited to 4 of our 39 school districts. We have converted what data we have into illustrative charts that are included in a power point demonstration. These convey what the data forecast for our region.

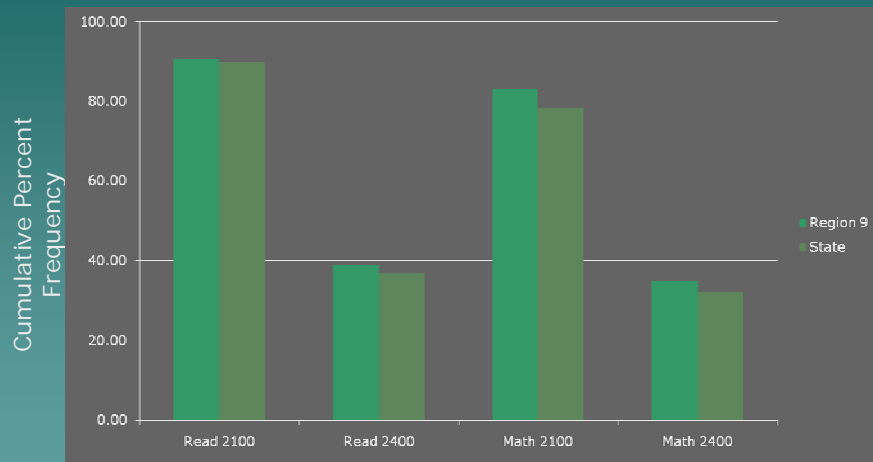
Given these data, we have been utilizing the information to deliver our message to MSU Faculty, Regional Counselors, Regional Principals, Superintendents, and soon Rotary Clubs, PTO's, as well as presentations to the Nortex Regional Planning Commission and the Bureau of Commerce and Industry.. Here is a brief example of how a portion of our data is being presented:

## Students meeting standard for 2<sup>nd</sup> grade at the end of 1<sup>st</sup> grade in reading and in math as of June 2007



Percentage of 1<sup>st</sup> graders on level

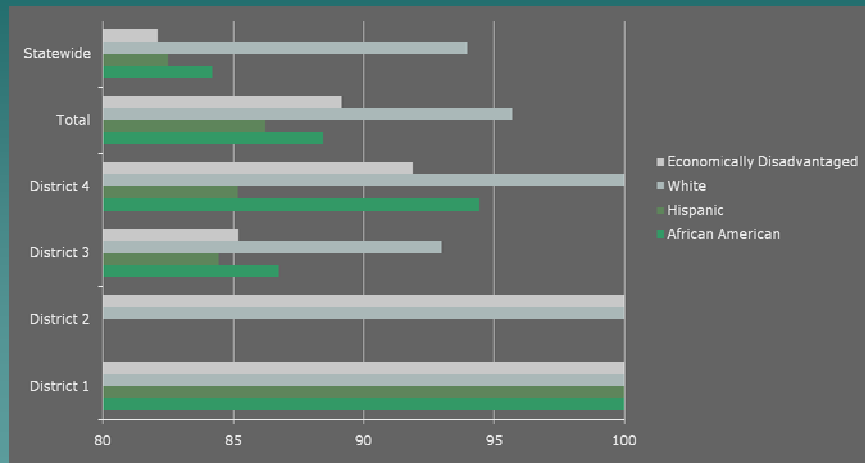
## 2008 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Math & Reading Scores



Subject Scale Score

2100 – Passing  
2400 – Commended

## District & Ethnic Comparison of On-Time 10<sup>th</sup> Graders

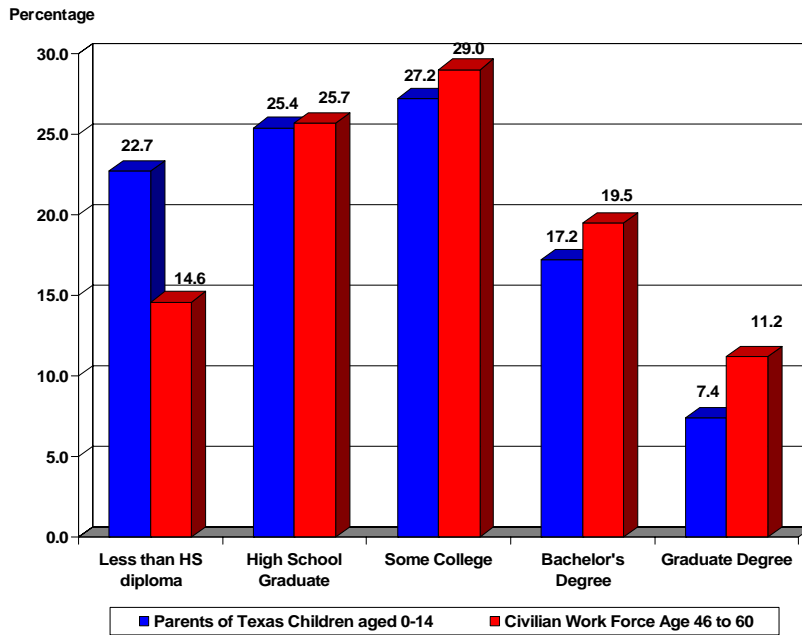


Percentage of On-Time 10<sup>th</sup> Graders

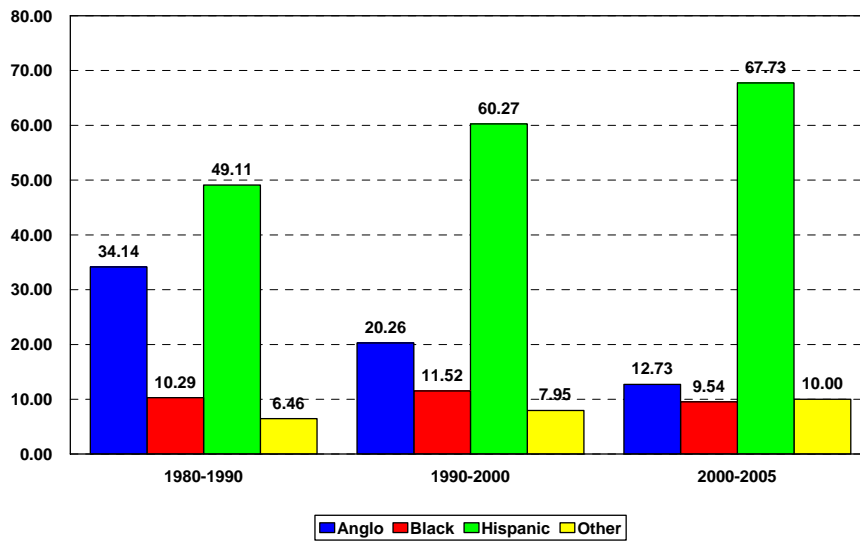
The Region IX P-16 Council looks forward to receiving more data from the state this spring. In our data driven effort, we have been exploring other important data relevant to our efforts. We have Dr. Karl Eschbach, who is the State Demographer of Texas, UTSA, scheduled in April to give a presentation to not only our P-16 Council, but also important business leaders from the Region.

Dr. Eschbach will be providing data specific to Region IX area that will impact education and our future efforts as a P-16 Council. This will create a compelling story to communicate to educators, lay people and our business leaders. We have already included some of his data into our presentations. See charts below:

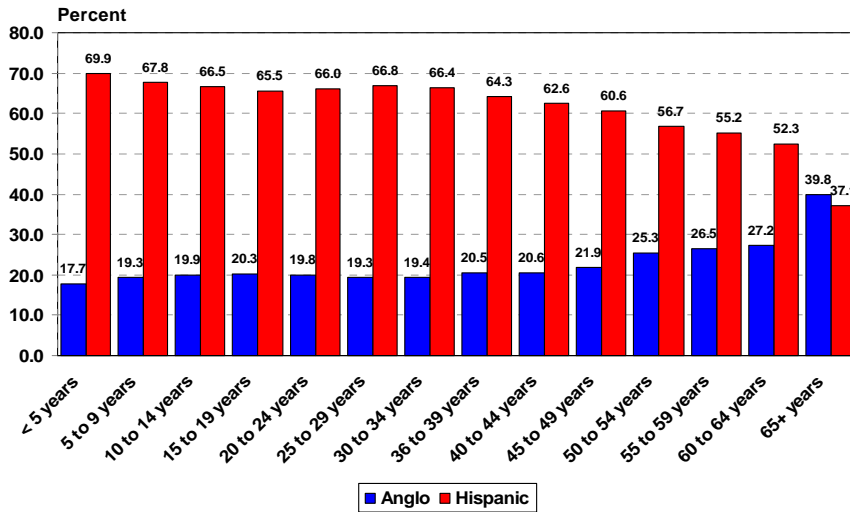
### Educational Attainment of Baby Boomers in the Texas Workforce vs. Parents of Texas Children



### Proportion of Net Population Change Attributable to Each Race/Ethnicity Group in Texas for 1980-1990, 1990-2000 and 2000-2005

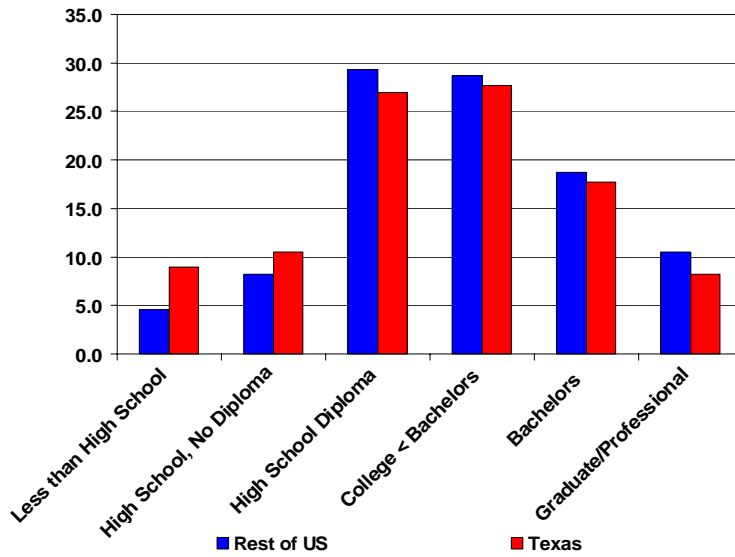


## Percent of Texas Population by Age Group and Ethnicity, 2040\*



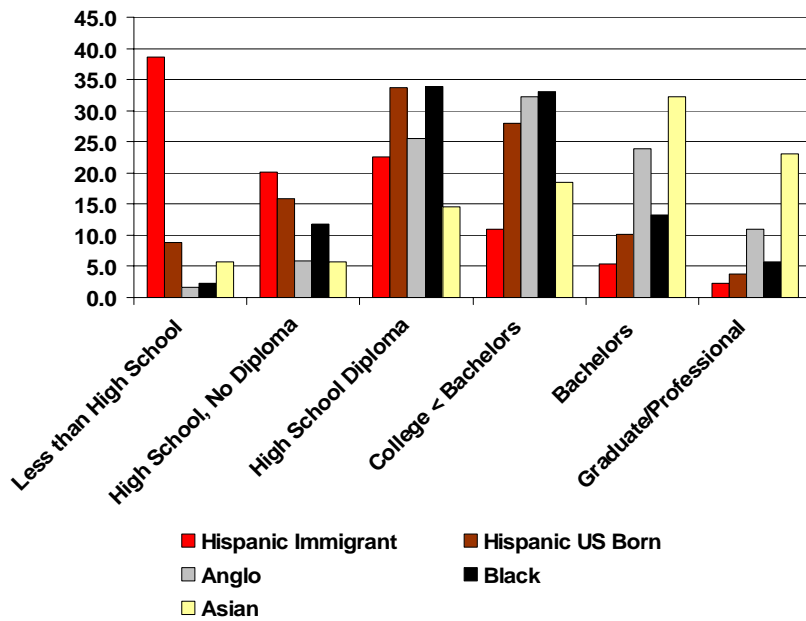
\*Projections are shown for the 1.0 scenario

## Educational Attainment (%) of Adults 25-64, Texas vs. Rest of the US

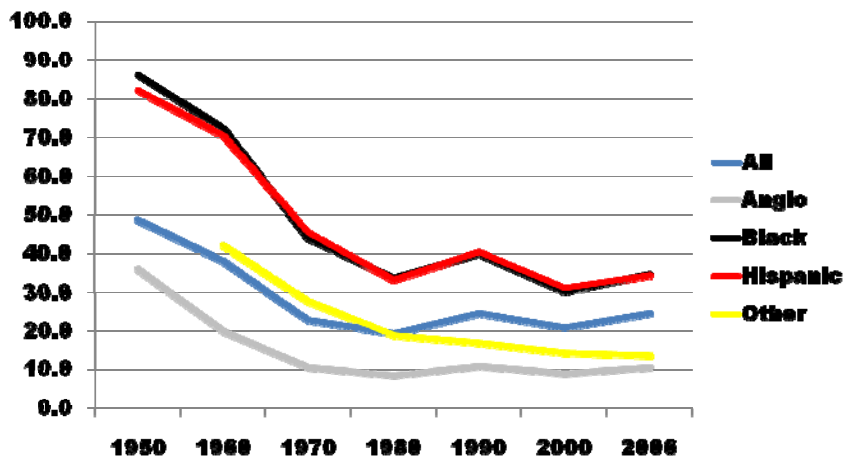


Source: American Community Survey, 2006

### Schooling of adults ages 25 to 64 by ethnicity, Texas 2006



### Percent of Texas Children 0-17 living in Household with Income Below Poverty



Source: Tabulation of U.S. Bureau of the Census, Public-use Micro-data (IPUMS)

### Success Characteristics:

In the August 08 Regional Council meeting in Austin, we rated ourselves on a 10 point scale as follows on factors for successful P-16 council efforts. The information below reflects effort since that would increase the rating.

- Leadership = 7
  - Since August we have hired our new executive director, Deborah Cornelius. She was the unanimous recommendation of the committee and greatly enhances our functioning capability.
- Sense of urgency = 5
  - Having made Fall 08 presentations on CRS and the goals and objectives of the P-16 Council to MSU faculty, Region IX counselors/principals/and superintendents, plus the North Texas Workforce Solutions, we have definitely heightened a sense of urgency in the region.
- Funding for initiatives = 5
  - Since June 08, the Council has raised **\$371,000** in external funds to support its initiative, greatly improving this rating.
- Council membership = 7
  - The addition of council members from the Community in Schools/21<sup>st</sup> Century Project and the Bureau of Commerce and Industry has added to the resources and influence of the Council.
- Relevance and Focus = 7
  - Our efforts have all been responsive to the perceived needs of the district as articulated by Council members. The addition of common data points will add to relevance and focus.
- Data driven efforts = 3
  - Once again, the addition of common data points for the Region will focus our efforts on specific percentage increases in post secondary participation holistically and with identified subgroups.

Sustainability Plan:

The Council received an initial stimulus grant of \$20,000. This was later supplemented by \$5,000 to support the travel and involvement of our HB 400 campus, Hirschi High School in the Wichita Falls ISD.

Since June 08, the Region 9 P-16 has applied for and received:

- \$25,000 from the AT&T Foundation for expanding summer bridge programs;
- \$50,000 from THECB for hiring an executive director for a year;
- \$196,000 to MSU from College Access Challenge Grants, Community Partnerships, to establish 4 GO Centers in Wichita Falls, Vernon, Graham, and Montague;
- \$100,000 to NCTC from College Access Challenge Grants, College Connections, to increase post secondary participation.in Montague county.

Region IX P-16 Council Goals and Objectives:

The intent of this section is to clearly delineate the Councils current goals and objectives, the progress made, and ongoing plans. In so doing, it should answer questions related to involvement of our members, increasing participation of ISDs/agencies/and businesses, and participation in state meetings (at which we have always been represented).

**Goal I: To increase the post secondary participation rates in Region 9.**

Targets/Objectives =

1. Overall rate from \_\_ to \_\_ by 2010.
2. African-American rate from \_\_ to \_\_ by 2010.
3. Hispanic rate from \_\_ to \_\_ by 2010.
4. Anglo rate from \_\_ to \_\_ by 2010.
  - We are still waiting for Region 9 data and will insert appropriate percentages.
  - We have increased our corporate membership and presented at North Texas Workforce Solutions (11/08) and to area counselors, principals, and superintendents advertising these purposes and goals.

**Goal II: To enhance the dialogue requisite to P-16 curriculum articulation and alignment, including an increase in dual enrollment opportunities.**

Targets/Objectives =

1. Assist the development of a “college bound” curriculum that is consistent with and integrated into TEKS.
  - July 08 workshop with 10 teachers from around the Region who spent the day brainstorming strategies and attaching them to TEKS at various points in the curriculum
  
2. Participate in the College Readiness Standards (CRS) review and feedback process.
  - Region 9 P-16 Council chair, Dr. Grant Simpson, is the CRS special advisor for MSU, participating in all state meetings.
  - 12 MSU professors participate in CRS Phases I & II.
  - August 08 CRS presentation to MSU faculty.
  - September 08 CRS presentation to Region 9 counselors.
  - October 08 CRS presentation to Region 9 principals.
  - Send 13 regional participants to CRS conference in Abilene, November 08.
  - December CRS presentation to Region 9 superintendents.
  
3. Facilitate bringing school districts and higher education to the table.
  - See #2
  
4. Identify reference courses and instructors for the CRS implementation phase.
  - Completed by Spring 08
  
5. Pilot dual/concurrent enrollment opportunities for targeted students (e.g. science for first generation college attenders).
  - Attend 08 August State Regional Council meeting with team from Hirschi High School (HB 400 campus) to make plans for increased participation.
  - Fall 08 planning, identifying, recruiting, and admitting Hirschi HS first generation students for dual enrollment courses in Biology and College Algebra for Spring 09.
  - Spring 09 classes begin with 12 students enrolled in Biology and 13 in College Algebra.

**Goal III: To develop, implement, and evaluate recruitment projects that support a college going culture at all levels.**

Targets/Objectives =

1. Facilitate “college bound” activities for IHEs to offer ISDs at all levels on a regular basis.
  - October 07 College Bound Kids Day at MSU for 150 3<sup>rd</sup> graders from two Title 1 campuses.
  - Spring 08 planning with WFISD to serve special QuickStep Academy Pilot for accelerating retained 6<sup>th</sup> graders.
  - Summer 08 Summer Bridge program with at-risk 9<sup>th</sup> graders from Iowa Park Consolidated ISD.
  - Summer 08 Summer Bridge program with rising high school juniors and seniors sponsored by MSU bilingual grant, Project BOW.
  - Apply for AT&T Foundation grant to expand IPCISD Summer Bridge program.
  - November 08 QuickStep Academy students visit MSU for orientation to campus and mentoring activities with MSU students.
  - January 08 QuickStep Academy students tour College of Health Sciences and Human Services for career workshops in dental hygiene, radiology, athletic training, and nursing.
2. Create and maintain a financial aid/area scholarships clearinghouse for the region.
  - Fall 08 unveiling of Region 9 P-16 Council website with regional scholarships link
  - December presentation to Region 9 superintendents.
3. Plan and deliver summer bridge programs from high school to junior college, high school to university, and junior college to university.
  - See #1
  - January 09 meeting on the expansion of summer bridge programs to include pooling of resources from two federal grants, Community in Schools, 21<sup>st</sup> Century, AT&T, and College Access Challenge Grants.
  - Summer 09 planned expansion of IPCISD to 4 or more districts and enhancement of Project BOW summer camp with many more students from Community in Schools/21<sup>st</sup> Century partners.
4. Plan and deliver summer content camps as recruiting tools.
  - See #s 1 & 3
5. Create and foster support funding/affordable scholarships in Region 9
  - Website resource on scholarships, October 09.
  - Began dual enrollment classes (Spring 09) at Hirschi High School, with fee and tuition waivers yielding a scholarship of over \$700.

**Goal IV: To actively reach out to the Hispanic and African-American communities to increase engagement at all levels.**

Targets/Objectives =

1. Expand access to early learning for children ages 3 to 5 and improve their readiness for kindergarten.
2. Promote transition from one level of learning to the next.
  - See summer bridges for at-risk 9<sup>th</sup> graders.
  - Spring 08 helped fund and advertise the Hispanic Leadership Banquet for area juniors and seniors.
  - Spring 09 committed financial support to the Hispanic Leadership Banquet for 100 juniors/seniors attending.
  - Spring 09 committed to Martin Luther King Center scholarship for a deserving first-generation African-American senior.
3. Offer neighborhood based seminars on topics that support student success.
  - January 09, MSU/NCTC joint presentation and recruitment seminar to a predominantly Hispanic audience at St. Williams Catholic Church in Montague, collecting data on 25 prospective students.
  - Spring 09 begin making school board, civic group, business association presentations on the efforts of the council.

**Goal V: To upgrade teacher education and professional development.**

Targets/Objectives =

1. Provide awareness of and solicit input for College Readiness Standards.
  - See CRS presentations in Fall 08.
  - Spring 09 CRS presentations to school boards and community groups.
2. Promote professional development activities, so that faculty are aware of them.
  - Support for August 14-15, 2008 workshop for MSU, NCTC, VC faculty on “Designing Courses for Significant Learning.”
  - Spring 09 advertising of ESC 9 CRS workshops in Summer 09.
  - Spring 09 TEKS alignment workshop.
  - Use of website to promote professional development activities in Spring/Summer 09.

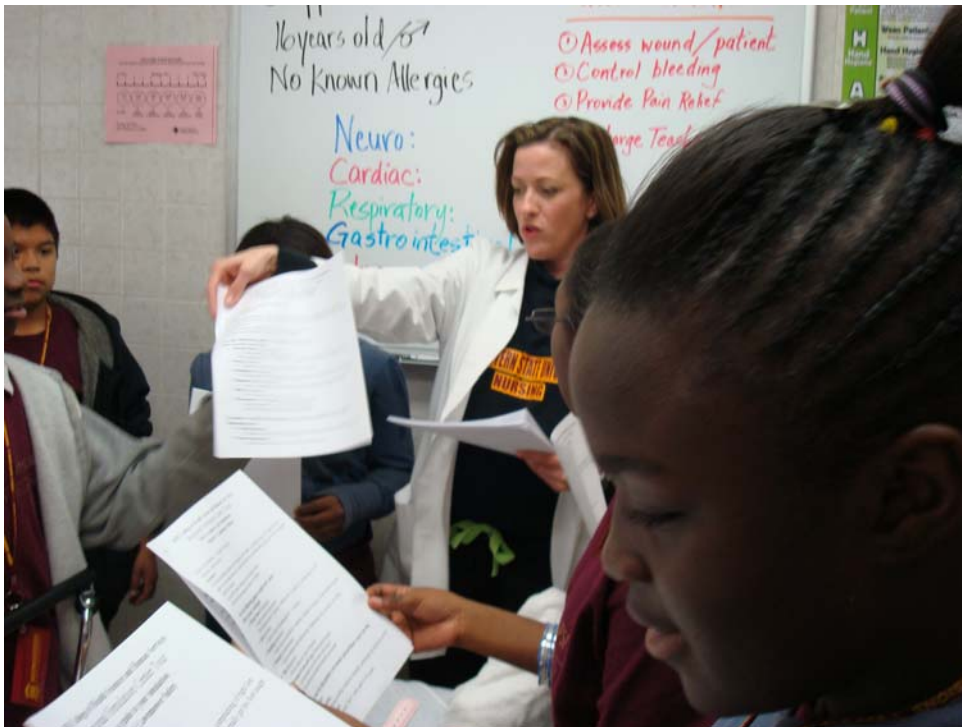
Public Relations:

The Region IX P-16 Council is publicly reporting progress, reports and information regarding opportunities and scholarship information on its new website: [www.region9p16.org/](http://www.region9p16.org/) . The council members will link the website on their respective sites. The website and upcoming P-16 events will be presented at scheduled meetings with superintendents, principal, and counselors as well as different presentation opportunities. Because of the changes to “College and Career Readiness Standards,” much of the current page will be changed to reflect equal emphasis on careers. This website is in its formative stages and will change monthly.

Likewise, the Council has a brochure in development to promote College and Career Readiness throughout the Region. The wording is essentially done, but we are still in the process of developing an appealing logo that will better “brand” who we are and what we are about. We think this will include the word **BEYOND** and incorporate the Spanish phrase “Mañana empieza hoy.” We will have different brochures for different publics (i.e. teachers, parents, business groups).

Recent Activities:

Participants in WFISD’s QuickStep Academy are visiting MSU monthly for mentoring, research, and career awareness activities. Below are photos from their visit to the College of Health Sciences and Human Services, where they toured dental hygiene, radiology, athletic training, and the nursing simulation lab.



Simulation Center- Quick Step Academy



Our P-16 Council also been active with other local organizations. One entity is the Hispanic Parent Ministry and Zavala Organization who requested a recruiting event at St. Williams Catholic Church in the small town of Montague. This church draws Hispanic families from many towns in the area. The Council sponsored this event in at January, 2009 that hosted over 100 attendees, including 25 students (grades 8-12) from Montague County that would all be first generation college students. This informative meeting educated both the students as well as their families about the opportunities available for their children. St. Williams will also be a community GO center in our recently awarded College Access Challenge Grant. In addition, our Council will help plan, deliver, and fund the Hispanic Leadership Banquet (4/12/09) for all Hispanic seniors and juniors in Region 9. Last year the banquet brought in over 200 students and families, who were informed of application procedures and available scholarships. Follow-up assistance was provided to students in rural areas. The Council pledged support for 100 attendees.

