

# *NEWS RELEASE*

Ann Arbor Public Schools Educational Foundation  
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## **Ann Arbor Public Schools Educational Foundation Grant Being Used to Improve Accessibility to School and Community Services for Latino Students and Families at Slauson Middle School**

Using funding from the Ann Arbor Public Schools Educational Foundation, Ms Mary-Margaret Cornish has established a Latino Club at Slauson Middle School. Ms Cornish, ESL teacher at Slauson, noticed some parents of Latino students at Slauson encountering language barriers to participation in the school and in the Ann Arbor community. The Latino Club gives students the opportunity to talk and have a safe place to hang out after school at least once a month. In addition, parent meetings are held evenings, with interpreters present, to share information about school issues, parenting issues, community information, etc.

The second Latino Club parent meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 28, at 6:45 pm in the Slauson Media Center. This program will bring together community resources for Latino students and parents. Representatives from Comcast, Washtenaw Literacy, the American Red Cross, International Neighbors, Neutral Zone, Northwood Community English Language Program, and the Program for Multicultural Health will all be there along with interpreters. Each organization will have approximately five to ten minutes to discuss programs they make available – this includes health care, tutoring, language classes. Following brief presentations, parents and students will have time to ask specific questions of the agencies present with interpreters available if needed.

This program is a model of collaboration between the Ann Arbor Public Schools and community groups working together to build a stronger community for all of Ann Arbors citizens.

The Ann Arbor Public Schools Educational Foundation was founded in 1990 by a group of concerned citizens to enhance the quality of education in the Ann Arbor Public Schools. The Ed Foundation, an autonomous not-for-profit corporation with its own bylaws and a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status, is separate and distinct from the Ann Arbor Public Schools. The Ed Foundation accepts gifts in the form of cash contributions, bequests, stock, memorials, endowments, scholarships and tributes, all of which are tax deductible.

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