

NABE and Coalition Partners meet with the new Director of the President's White House Initiative on Excellence in Education for Hispanic America



Dear Aimee,

On behalf of our Coalition Partners from the Center for Linguistics (CAL), Ana G. Méndez University (AGMUS), TESOL International, Joint National Committee on Languages (JNCL), Association of Latino Administrators and Superintendents (ALAS), and the National Association for Bilingual Education (NABE), we are all very delighted and pleased that you took time out from your busy schedule to meet in your office at the U.S. Department of Education to share very open, transparent and robust ideas on how to address some of the most important challenges facing our education system and in particular exploring positive, evidence-based models of success to support the President's Initiative on Improving Education for Hispanic Americans.

We appreciate your deep and sincere interest and commitment for the success of all students, especially our English Learners and your ability to listen carefully to our concerns and recommendations.

We believe that you are in a unique position, based upon your leadership skills and experience as a former teacher and educational leader to provide both the Administration and the Secretary with unfiltered and invaluable recommendations from our Coalition Partners on what real educational success looks like across our country and the asset-based, global, linguistic and cultural diversity of our children.

Our Coalition also appreciates your commitment to visiting schools nationwide and engaging students, teachers, parents and community in the shared responsibilities for student success.

Once more, we sincerely thank you for the wonderful opportunity for open and collaborative dialogue yesterday afternoon. We further reaffirm that we are all in this journey together for our students and stand ready to assist you as advisors to the President's WHIEH.

We compliment you on your innovative and informative website and your periodic educational news letters. Please let us know how we can continue to assist you and the President on this initiative and any other educational matters impacting our English and Multilingual Learners.

“¡Sí se puede!”

Santiago Wood on behalf of our Coalition Partners,

Note: Photo of Mrs. Aimee Viana, Director of the President's Initiative on Improving Education for Hispanic Americans, meeting yesterday at the U.S. Department of Education with Education Coalition Partners (Chris Powers, TESOL International, Syndia Nazaro Cardona, Ana G. Mendez University, Nancy Lewin, ALAS, Margarita Pinkos and Santiago Wood, NABE Trey Calvin, JNCL and Joel Gomez, CAL.