

# Austin Independent School District

Office of Planning and Community Relations



November 4, 2009

Dear Friend of AISD,

Superintendent Meria Joel Carstarphen extends a personal invitation to you to attend an important community meeting regarding the District's FY 2010-2011 budget. On October 25, 2009, the Board of Trustees approved the FY 2010-2011 Budget Parameters which serve as a guideline in developing the preliminary budget that is due in February 2010.

As you may know, the District has held community conversations on the new Strategic Plan over the last two months. These conversations have not only informed the development of the plan, but will also play a role in informing upcoming budget decisions. To continue that discussion and increase community engagement, we are hosting two community meetings in November and December.

We would like to have at least 150 parents, students, community members, and AISD staff participate in each of the two community conversations, and it is our hope that participants truly represent the diversity of the Austin community. The first meeting will be held on Thursday, November 12, 2009, from 6 to 8:30 PM at the Anderson High School Cafeteria, located at 8403 Mesa Drive. The second meeting, on December 3, 2009, from 6 to 8:30 PM, will be held at the Travis High School Cafeteria, located at 1211 East Oltorf. Both meetings will include a short presentation on budget basics, and small group discussions about budget priorities and challenges. Information gathered from each small group discussion will be recorded and presented to the Citizen Budget Review Committee.

To prepare for the meeting, we ask that you pre-register for the Budget Community Conversation by going to the Budget & School Finance webpage at <http://www.austinisd.org/inside/budget/>. Please note that if you are unable to attend the community conversation, we welcome your input online.

If you have any questions about the budget process, please contact Nicole Conley-Abram, Chief Financial Officer, at 414-2323 or [budget@austinisd.org](mailto:budget@austinisd.org). For questions regarding the community conversation, contact Beverly E. Reeves, District Ombudsman, Office of Planning and Community Relations, at 414-9882 or [breeves@austinisd.org](mailto:breeves@austinisd.org).

Sincerely,

Janis Guerrero, Ph.D.  
Executive Director  
Office of Planning and Community Relations