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## **Reading School District Highlights Partnership with Centro Hispano**

READING, PA — The Reading School District is pleased to highlight its partnership with [Centro Hispano](#), which continues to enhance support for the district's students and families.

The partnership between RSD and Centro Hispano strengthened in response to the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. Together, both entities have distributed nearly 1,000 meals daily across the city, with the meals provided to Reading's after-school programs encouraging increased student participation.

"Access to nutritious meals is fundamental to student success," said Manuel (Manny) Sostre, School Community Coordinator at Tyson-Schoener Elementary. "By addressing food insecurity with the help of Centro Hispano, we create a conducive environment for academic growth and overall well-being."

Additionally, Centro Hispano's [Opening Doors](#) program has facilitated greater parental engagement district-wide. This peer-to-peer training initiative empowers parents to advocate effectively for their children, enhancing educational outcomes.

"Our collaboration with RSD is anchored in the belief that community engagement is pivotal to student success," said Michael Toledo, President and CEO of Centro Hispano. "Through programs like Opening Doors, we equip parents with the tools they need to champion their children's education."

At Tyson-Schoener Elementary School, Centro Hispano's support is multifaceted. The organization actively collaborates with the school's Communities in Schools program, facilitating extracurricular activities such as Girl Scouts, Million Man Chess Club, and science clubs. This holistic approach to education reflects Centro Hispano's commitment to nurturing well-rounded individuals.

"Centro Hispano's support of our Communities in Schools program has been invaluable," said Dr. Salvador Sepulveda, Principal of Tyson-Schoener Elementary. "Working closely with families and students to set and achieve academic and extracurricular goals, Centro Hispano has played a crucial role in fostering a culture of success within our school community."

With a rich history spanning five decades, Centro Hispano has been a cornerstone of support for the Latino community in central Pennsylvania. Through collaborative initiatives, the organization aims to enhance the quality of life for Latino individuals and families throughout the greater Reading area.

"Our secret sauce lies in our shared experiences and commitment to our community," said Toledo. "By leveraging our collective strengths, we are paving the way for a brighter future."

Looking forward, RSD and Centro Hispano remain committed to supporting students and families, and building supports around Reading's Latino population and empowering them to reach their full potential.

For more information about the Reading School District, please visit <https://www.readingsd.org/>.

To learn more about Centro Hispano, please visit <https://www.centrohispano.org/>.

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