

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

ABSTRACT

Teachers' Perceptions of School-Based Curriculum
Development for Meeting Pupils' Needs in Spanish

without whose assistance the completion of this project would
not have been possible. Carol Patricia Slusher

Low achievement on the part of Junior Secondary school students appears to be a perennial problem faced by educators today. In the area of Spanish, the answer may lie in the design of the curriculum. In the case of this study, a survey questionnaire was used to investigate the perceptions which teachers have of the effectiveness of two different approaches to curriculum development, for meeting the needs of the urban Junior Secondary school student. I acknowledge the contribution of the following individuals. To this end, 28 teachers of Spanish in five urban Junior Secondary schools were required to rate the curriculum document currently in use, as well as a Teaching-Learning unit compiled by the researcher.

The analysis is based on a comparison of the two sets of ratings. The results showed that, in the opinion of teachers, the proposed document, which reflects a school-based approach to curriculum design, is more likely to effectively meet students' needs.