

Pittsburg Unified School District

DELAC

October 9, 2017

Present:

Foothill: María Magallón, Marta Rodriguez,
Aideé Cisneros Urquiza
Heights: Virginia Martinez, Martha Torres, Irma Pantoja,
Highlands: Monica Vallejo
Los Medanos: Evelyn Costacuerta
Parkside: Claudia Barrera, Veronica Olivares
Stoneman: Marta Carabantes
Willow Cove: Miguel Alvarado, Silvia Portillo,
Rosa Vela, Fabiola Villa
Marina Vista:

Hillview JH: Martha Rodríguez,
Rancho Medanos, JH: Dora Rodríguez, Rosa Varela,
María Suarez, Mirtha Rivas,
MLK, Jr. JH: María Zárate,
María Magallón, Catalina Cruz,
Veronica Olivares
PHS: María Zárate
Black Diamond H:
Educational Services: Sandra Guardado, Lorena
Asdourian, María Gómez

Welcome and Introductions:

The meeting started at 5:35 PM. Mrs. Virginia Martinez, DELAC president welcomed everyone, asked the parents to introduce themselves and started the meeting. Parents introduced themselves mentioning their school site.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes were sent by email for parents to review them beforehand and some parents reviewed the minutes in the meeting. Mrs. María Magallón, made a motion to approve the minutes and it was seconded by Mrs. Claudia Barrera. The committee agreed to approve the minutes for the last meeting of May 23, 2017.

Purpose and Responsibilities of the Districts English Learner Advisory Committee. Mrs. Sandra Guardado, EL and Dual Language Immersion Coordinator went over the presentation **ELAC and DELAC**.

She mentioned that all the schools have ELACs: English Language Advisory Committee. This is a committee formed by parents of English Learners at each school site to help advice the principal and staff about the needs and services for English Learners.

DELAC: District English Learner Advisory Committee. This is a committee held at district level. All the representatives from the various schools, advise the district and all of the various departments about the needs and services for EL students. DELAC's parents express the needs of their individual schools as well as identify district's needs.

If a school has 21 students that have a different language other than English, an ELAC committee must be established. A DELAC is created when there are 51 or more students with another language, other than English in the District. Our District has individual ELACs for each school site and a DELAC.

Parents are the most critical component of these committees, since they know what their student(s) needs. Parents also provide perspective and input with regards to the strengths and areas of growth of the program. It is important for parents to get involved and become part of the ELAC and DELAC. Each ELAC holds elections and select their DELAC representative that serves as the liaison between both committees.

Someone asked if parents of students that are not EL can join and be part of the ELAC/DELAC. Yes, the meetings are public meetings and anyone can attend.

Responsibilities of the Committee: Mrs. Sandra Guardado.

- DELAC advises and assist in the development of the Single Site Plan for Student Achievement which aligns to the district's goals.
- DELAC assists in the development of the Needs Assessment Survey to help evaluate the effectiveness and needs of the program.
- DELAC helps identify practices to make parents/guardians aware of the importance of regular school attendance.

Mrs. Guardado continued and mentioned that some of this information, they may had already heard at their individual ELACs. But this information must be presented every year to ensure that every parent is aware of the responsibilities of the committee.

Mrs. Guardado emphasized the following information:

- The importance of school attendance. For each student present they give funds which will help meet the needs of the students and district.
- Provides input with regards to the district plan, known as the LCAP.
- The district receives both state and federal money to help address the needs of ELs.
- ELAC is specific for the needs of each school and DELAC is for the needs of all the schools in the district.
- Parents are notified if their student is an EL and are given information regarding the reclassification process.
- Parents (ELAC/DELAC) can provide input on the Reclassification Process. (There will be a presentation in the future about this topic).

Mrs. Guardado asked the parents if they had any questions and thanked them for being involved and representing their schools. She shared that in the future, we will have more information about how the students are doing. Any questions about the presentation?

Someone asked, why do we establish these committees? It is the law, it tells us that we need to involve the parents so you can provide the input. You are the fountain of information and know what the students need.

Mrs. Martha Carabantes of Stoneman Elementary asked regarding the specific amount the school receives for each student (state and federal)? Mrs. Guardado stated that she did not know the exact amount and that she would get that information and bring it to share at a future meeting.

Mrs. Zarate, mentioned, that the DELAC advises the district about the funds and gives input to the LCAP. Mrs. Zarate also continued with the following questions:

- “How can we be sure of what we talk in the DELAC can be heard in the SSC (School Site Council)?” Mrs. Guardado responded, that she could ask the administrators to ensure that what is shared in ELACs gets back to SSC.
- Could any parent ask to see the minutes of the SSC? Yes the minutes are public and meetings are public, any parent can attend they just do not have voting rights.
- The DELAC minutes are sent to the principals to read and that’s how they can know what is going on in the DELAC, the minutes are also shared with the superintendent and board members.

ELAC Reports:

Foothill. Martha Rodriguez reported.

- Our meeting was on September 21st.
- Explanation on ELAC and DELAC was given.
- Elections. There was a tie, so we will know at the next meeting.
- Mrs. Guardado attended the meeting.

Heights. Mrs. Virginia Martinez reported.

- We talked about what ELAC is and topics covered at ELACs.
- Voting took place. Election Results - Mrs. Virginia Martinez, President, and Jessica Estrella is the VP, and Deborah Ventura is the secretary. DELAC representatives Irma Pantoja, Mrs. Martinez, and Alternate DELAC Rep. is Martha Torres.

Highlands. Mrs. Monica Vallejo reported.

- Our meeting was on September 19th.
- We had elections. Mrs. Rosales is one of the parents that will represent us in DELAC, but could not come today.
- An explanation of the member’s obligations was given.
- New test for the reclassifications and a brief overview of how the test will be now.

Los Medanos. There was a member present but no report this time.

Parkside.

- The meeting was on September 21st.
- Information about ELAC and responsibilities.
- Information on Reclassification so parents can help the students to be reclassified.
- We tried to do elections, but we could not do it.
- Discussion on the way how things that are happening in the school are announced or how parents are informed.

Willow Cove. Mr. Miguel Alvarado reported.

- He is a temporary representative for DELAC.
- On Tuesday, October 3rd, we had our meeting.
- Explanation of the EL program was given.
- There was no quorum, only 3 parents attended.
- The principal and the Parent Liaison will send invitation and postponed the election of representatives.

Stoneman. Mrs. Martha Carabantes reported.

- We will have the ELAC meeting every 2nd Tuesday of the month.
- We had the meeting on September 12th.
- The new vice principal, Mrs. Miren Doolittle was introduced.
- The importance of ELAC and strategies to bring fathers also, because mostly women attend the meetings.
- Voting, they gave us the ballots to be return the next day.
- A talk about the traffic at the entrance and dismissal of the school.
- They want to have a get together to raise funds for the families in Oaxaca, Mexico that suffered in the earthquake.

Marina Vista. There was no representative present.

Rancho Medanos. Mrs. María Magdalena Suarez reported.

- The meeting was on October 6th and they will be on the first Friday of the month.
- Elections: Patricia López, President; VP Apolonia Canales, María Suarez, Secretary.
- Dora García DELAC Representative and Rosa Varela DELAC Alternative.
- We had a good attendance to the meeting.
- Explanation of what is ELAC and DELAC.
- Reclassification,
- Traffic and security.
- ELAC members want to take the request about PIQUE classes to DELAC Meeting.
- How to help the students that are low in their studies.

Hillview. Mrs. Martha Rodríguez reported.

- Information on what is DELAC and ELAC.
- There were no elections. We decided to have the meeting on the 3rd Friday of the month.
- The Parent Liaison was introduced. Miss Faye Massey. Information about the parents' workshop was given. Mrs. Zamora will work together with the parent liaison.
- Hillview had a picnic for lunch in the field.

MLK, Jr. JH. Mrs. Veronica Olivares reported.

- Information about Reclassification.
- They talked about how to help the students according to their level.
- MLK had the March of Fathers. To involve more dads.
- I think it is important to come to these reunions. For me personally, this is helping a lot to help my student. My son is a 6th grader and is not reclassified, and I want to be involved more.
- Mrs. Catalina Cruz, of MLK also reported that MLK is also planning another meeting to do a fund raising for the school.

PHS. Mrs. María Zárate reported.

- Information about ELAC and DELAC.
- Elections: DELAC Representatives: María Rosales
- Importance of school attendance
- Were informed about the new EL/DI Coordinator, Mrs. Sandra Guardado.
- The ELD counselors were there. (Arias and Voqui)
- Parents asked if the ELD students could apply for the university. Yes they could.
- New Assistant Principal was introduced, Mrs. Jennifer Clark.
- Class for parents with adolescents. Mrs. Zarate mentioned, Please come and take part of this program, and then we parents do not come. Parents discussed the importance of these classes in North Campus.
- PHS invited parents from DELAC come to School Site council on, they will talk about the SPSA

Black Diamond. No representative present.

Discussion and comments by parents follow:

Mr. Miguel Alvarado: Sometimes we do not assist to the meetings, we do not have the adequate methods to get informed or if they do some parents do not know how to use them. It would be good if we can contract a communications specialist. For example, many documents come to school with the student and parents do not read them. In our countries the meetings are mandatory, here they are optional.

Mrs. Silvia Portillo of Willow Cove. Also mentioned that they had another separate meeting about how the Title I funds were distributed. How they distribute the Federal and Title III funds. They bought Laptops for students to use. Information on how to handle problems with students inside and outside the School. This Thursday, we will have Healthy Night!

Someone from Rancho Medanos JH mentioned. There is a program that is called "Remind," it reminds us about the homework. The program exists but there is no channel for people to use it. We need something more efficient. Phone calls are made to remind parents.

A parent mentioned PIQE. Rancho would like to have PIQE. Parents Institute for Quality Education. PIQE creates partnerships between parents, students, and educators to further students' academic achievement that has been enhanced since our inception in 1987.

We asked if all the schools call the parents to come to the meetings. Parents want personal calls for the meetings. More discussions for parents on how to involve the parents. They get a list of the important dates.

There was a suggestion by Mrs. Claudia Barrera, Parkside's Parent Liaison. She gave an incentive to the students to motivate the parents to come to the meetings. This is a double objective, students will encourage their parents to attend, as well as, the students will learn the importance of getting involved.

Another parent shared that she feels like the schools are doing different things to get parents to be involved and go to meetings. She shared that for the 9th grader orientation, people came home to visit, but she did not get a call in advance to let her know. The call came in just went they were at the door.

Future Agenda Items: Mrs. Sandra Guardado asked the parents suggestions for future Agenda Items and she mentioned that following:

- Reclassification – District and School, not only to review the process and numbers but also have a conversation about the process and take suggestions.
- The difference between CELDT and LPAC and preparing our students for the new test.
- Specific information about student funds (state and federal).

Any items for the Agenda? Parents suggested:

- Attendance and consistency of tardy policy: At PHS some students are in the classroom but because they are not in their seat, they are marked "Tardy".
- Sometimes if they are misbehaving some teachers mark them "Tardy".
- There were comments on how every school in the district has different Attendance Policy and teachers have too much discretion on when they mark students late or absent.
- Sometimes there is no doctor's appointments available in the afternoon and they need to be done in the morning. A mother mentioned that she was threatened that she was going to have a meeting at SARB because her daughter was having too many Dr.'s appointments.
- Some students participate in the Ballet *Folklórico* and practice at lunch and they were marked absent and the machine would call home.
- More discussions about parents and students issues in the schools that affect the students.
- Parents suggested having a general meeting where parents and teachers and students can meet and be together.
- Parent involvement. It is very important to be involved.
- Parents want to have a report on ELD. What is ELD?
- How long are they in the program/classes? How are we monitoring the EL students?
- If it is possible to ask for more specific support to identify students that are hyperactive. A parent of a child mentioned that her child does not pay attention and mom would like a reference for psychological services or the adequate services. Help them from the beginning. In all the schools they are psychologist, but there is no adequate channels to inform parents.
- For example, there was bullying and the school did not help much until the parent talked to Dr. Catalde.

Mrs. Guardado stated that a future meeting she will go over how parents can go to the schools to ask for additional support (academic and social/emotional).

Our next meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 6, 2017

Thanks for coming. The meeting was adjourned at 7:15