

**San José Unified School District
855 Lenzen Avenue, San José, CA 95126
District English Learners Advisory Committee (DELAC) Meeting**

April 18, 2011

MINUTES

- I. **Call to Order:** Mrs. Mara Herrera called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.
- II. **Welcome and Introductions:** Mrs. Herrera welcomed everyone and introduced District staff and special guests.

Interpretation services provided by Mrs. María De Melo and Mrs. Claudia Aguilera.

- III. **Attendance:** Mrs. María Elena Ramírez reminded everyone to sign the attendance roster.

Schools represented:

Allen at Steinbeck, Anne Darling, Bachrodt, Canoas, Carson, Empire Gardens, Galarza, Hammer at Galarza, Grant, Graystone, Hacienda, Horace Mann, Los Alamitos, Lowell, Olinder, Reed, River Glen, Simonds, Terrell, Trace, Washington, Williams, Willow Glen Elem., Bret Harte, Castillero, Hoover, Willow Glen MS, Broadway, Leland, Pioneer, San José High, and Willow Glen High.

Schools not represented

Almaden, Booksin, Gardner, Schallenberger, Burnett, Muir, Gunderson, and Lincoln.

- IV. **Approval of the Agenda**

The agenda was reviewed and amended as follows:

- An item concerning the budget information packet mailed to parents was added under the Old Business Section-VIII.
- The Language Census R30 presentation was added as a tentative item under the New Business Section-IX in case there is sufficient time to present.
- DELAC end-of-the year activities were added to the Announcement Section-X.

Mrs. Laura Alonzo made a motion to approve the Agenda as amended and Mrs. María de la Luz Vázquez seconded. All were in favor and the Agenda was approved.

- V. **Approval of Minutes**

The minutes from March 21, 2011 were reviewed. Mrs. Paola Sarabia made a motion to approve them and Mr. Gabino Martínez seconded. All were in favor and the minutes were approved as presented.

- VI. **Correspondence**

Mrs. María Elena Ramírez announced that there was no returned mail this month and thanked members for keeping their contact information updated.

- VII. **Committee Reports**

Voluntary Integration Plan (VIP) Committee by Mrs. Nancy Valdés

There was no VIP meeting this month. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 9, 2011.

Parent Brown Bag Meeting by Dr. Matthews

The meeting was held on March 24, 2011 and the focus was on Dr. Cooper's visit in February. Dr. Cooper came to the District to talk about health and the impact it has on student achievement. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 21, 2011 at 12:00 noon. The main topics are budget and furlough days for next year. The main purpose is to get community input regarding the furlough dates. Dr. Matthews encouraged everyone to attend.

VIII. Old Business

A. Budget information packets by Mrs. Mara Herrera

Mrs. Herrera informed the committee that the budget information was mailed to all members in advance as agreed at the last meeting.

Mrs. Herrera reminded everyone to use the forms for reporting individual issues in case they had personal questions during the presentation.

IX. New Business:

A. Budget Assumptions for 2011-12 by Mr. Chris Funk

Mr. Funk informed parents that they had received the Parent Bill of Rights brochure as a follow-up to last month's concern regarding what parents can do to support their child. He briefly reviewed the brochure information and answered questions.

Mrs. María Elena Ramírez asked if school staff receives the same Parent Bill of Rights that is provided to parents as well as also the information on staff being supportive to parents and making them feel welcome. She said parents don't feel welcome when visiting the school for a meeting or appointment with the teacher or the principal.

Mr. Funk said the District expectation is that all sites welcome parents to the campus and provide interpretation as needed. Most schools have at least one employee who is bilingual. There are some schools that don't have bilingual staff. If the site cannot provide that service, then they need to contact the Parent Education Office to make interpretation arrangements as needed.

A parent asked about what the District is doing to make sure schools are handling parents' requests with respect and integrity and whether the District could do more to support that area.

Mr. Funk said the District has approved an Equity Policy that talks about the importance of meeting the needs of all stakeholders. The Board has also offered customer service training to the staff. If the site is not meeting the needs of the community, the District could support the school through the Parent Education Office or even by facilitating school community meetings. It is Mr. Funk's responsibility to work with principals to ensure they have open communication with all stakeholders.

A parent shared that the principal at her school doesn't meet with parents, unless they have an appointment.

Mr. Funk said if parents come to the school and need to speak to the principal, the principal should meet with the parent if he/she is available. If the parent arrives at the school and the principal is not in the office, then it would be appropriate to make an appointment. If parents are not getting the support they need, they could contact his office.

Mrs. Albarrán explained that the reason principals encourage parents to make an appointment is mainly to provide undivided attention when they meet. Scheduling a meeting in advance helps the principal and school staff be prepared when parent arrives at the school. This will eliminate having the parent come back.

Parents need to know that if a principal is not being supportive then Mr. Funk needs to know.

Budget

Mr. Funk provided an overview of the budget assumptions for 2011-12. He explained that the State of California must reduce \$26.5 billion in spending. The Governor has proposed \$12.6 billion in cuts outside of K-12 education and is hoping to include some initiatives on the June election ballot in order to maintain the current tax level. The current taxes expire this year, but if the proposal is approved, the taxes would be extended 5 more years. There is another \$3.2 billion in different solutions that the legislature may approve. At this time, the District is anticipating a 0% COLA increase in 11/12 and is projecting a \$349 ongoing cut per student, which will total to a \$11.2 million loss of revenue. The District is proposing to maintain the 5 furlough days and is planning on spending down the reserves in order to cover the remaining \$6.2 million.

Mr. Funk indicated that the Governor was not able to include his initiatives on the ballot; therefore, the Board of Education is planning on having furlough days for next year and will use its reserves in order to save programs next

year. At this point, the District needs to know what it can do with less money. The District now knows that the cut will be more than \$349 per student and the District will go through more cuts in the future, so they need to prepare for that.

Mr. Funk presented a projection using an additional \$100, \$200 and \$300 reduction per student to show how fast the reserves will be used if there is no increase of revenue in education.

Mr. Funk provided the Committee with a summary of the Tier III TIIG Expenditure Plan and the Comprehensive Plan for School Support (CompSS). He also provided parents a list of unbudgeted items that the District was planning on implementing if they had extra funds.

Mrs. María Elena Ramírez asked if the programs mentioned were specifically for English Learners.

Mr. Funk said there are specific budgets for English Learners, but other budgets like TIIG and ComPass include programs for all students.

Mr. Funk mentioned that the same budget information has already been shared with the Voluntary Integration Plan (VIP) Committee, principals, Budget Advisory Committee (BAC), the Superintendent's Cabinet, and all Directors in order to get as much input as possible.

Mrs. Herrera suggested that Mr. Funk review the contents on the budget chart before parents could analyze them. Mr. Funk reviewed the different services funded by TIIG and ComPass and briefly explained the purpose of each program. He recommended that parents focus on expenditures over \$20,000.

Mr. Funk invited everyone to review the budget plan at their table and said a District member would be available to answer any questions they might have before voting. They could vote for the top three areas they felt should not be eliminated and the top three areas they felt would have less impact on student achievement if taken away.

Parents reviewed the budget plan provided by Mr. Funk and voted accordingly.

B. Language Census-R30 by Rosanna Mucetti

The presentation was postponed until next meeting due to time constraints.

X. Announcements

A. Parent Education and Involvement by Ms. Elizabeth Bliss

Mrs. Bliss offered her Department's services to parents and encouraged them to call her office whenever they need support. Her office supports schools in order to increase parent leadership.

B. End-of-the-Year Recognition

Mrs. Mara Herrera announced the recognition event that will take place at the next meeting. DELAC representatives will be recognized for their service and a dinner will be provided.

C. Meeting Evaluations

Parents completed the meeting evaluations.

XI. Adjournment:

Mrs. Elva Arciniaga made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Mrs. Dina Schmith seconded.

All were in favor and Mrs. Mara Herrera adjourned the meeting at 8:09 pm.

Minutes respectfully presented by Verónica C. Lara