

**San José Unified School District**  
**855 Lenzen Avenue, San José, Ca 95126**  
**District English Learners Advisory Committee (DELAC) Meeting**  
**May 11, 2010**

**MINUTES**

I. **Call to Order:** Ms. Mara Herrera called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

II. **Welcome and Introductions:** Ms. Nancy Valdés welcomed everyone to the meeting. Ms. María de Melo and Ms. Christine Lemmon provided interpretation services.

III. **Attendance:** Ms. Mara Herrera reminded members to sign in.

**Schools represented:**

Allen at Steinbeck, Anne Darling, Bachrodt, Canoas, Carson, Galarza/Hammer, Gardner, Grant, Graystone, Hacienda, Horace Mann, Lowell, Olinder, Reed, River Glen, Terrell, Trace, Washington, Willow Glen Elem., Bret Harte, Burnett, Leland, Pioneer, and San José High School.

**Schools not represented**

Almaden, Booksin, Empire Gardens, Los Alamitos, Schallenberger, Simonds, Williams, Castellero, Hoover, Muir, Willow Glen Middle, Broadway, Gunderson, Lincoln, and Willow Glen High.

IV. **Approval of Agenda:** The agenda was reviewed.

**Ms. Laura Alonso** made a motion to approve the agenda and **Ms. Claudia Espino** seconded it. All were in favor and the agenda was approved as presented.

V. **Approval of Minutes:** The minutes from April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2010 were reviewed.

**Mr. Efraín Córdova** made a motion to approve the minutes and **Ms. Ana Solorio** seconded it. All were in favor and the minutes were approved as presented.

VI. **Correspondence:** Ms. Ramírez informed the committee that there was no correspondence.

VII. **Announcements by Ms. Elizabeth Bliss**

-Ms. Bliss thanked the DELAC officers and all members for their support and participation in the different classes and events her office offered throughout the year.

**Upcoming events:**

-Tribute to Women and Fashion Show

-Ceremony for parents who participated in the Plaza Comunitaria, General Education Diploma (GED), Rosetta Stone, and elementary and secondary school education classes.

-Building Lives classes

-Parent Project offered at the Santa Clara County Office of Education

Ms. Bliss thanked everyone for giving her the opportunity to collaborate with them.

VIII. **Committee and School Reports:**

**Voluntary Integration Plan (VIP) Committee:**

Ms. Herrera reminded members that the next VIP meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2010.

**Parent Brown Bag:**

There was no report since no DELAC member attended the meeting on April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2010. She announced that the next meeting is scheduled for May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2010 and encouraged members to attend since it would be Mr. Don Iglesias' last meeting. Ms. Herrera asked for volunteers to attend the last Parent Brown Bag.

**Challengerber Elementary-**There was no report. Representative was not in attendance.

**Simonds Elementary-**There was no report. Representative was not in attendance.

**Terrell Elementary-Report by Ms. Rosa Martínez.**

Ms. Martínez spoke about the different programs offered at Terrell including ABC Parents, Art Angels, Los Dichos de la Casa, Fusión Visión, After-School Homework Center for 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade, choir, Royal Reading Program, and after-school math tutoring for 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Finally, she indicated that the school organizes a Walk-A-Thon to raise funds for school and 5<sup>th</sup> grade science camp.

**Trace Elementary by Ms. María Estrella**

Ms. Estrella mentioned that Trace offers programs such as art, band, and folkloric dancing. She said parents are very involved during recess. The school also offers Los Dichos de la Casa, holds recycling events, and provides computer and nutrition classes, Gifted and Talented Education (GATE), Coffee with the Principal, Positive Behavior Intervention Systems (PBIS), and fundraising events.

**Willow Glen Elementary by Ms. Claudia Espino**

Ms. Espino shared the school's vision and mentioned that WGE is a California Distinguished School. Willow Glen Elementary offers a Two-Way Bilingual Immersion Program, Accelerated Reader, music, art and science among other programs.

**San José High Academy by Ms. Isabel Estrella**

Ms. Estrella shared the school's historical background. The school offers the International Baccalaureate (IB) Program. Some of the main events at SJHA include the Big Bone Game during Thanksgiving, mariachi concerts, School English Learner Advisory Committee (SELAC) meetings, Speech and Debate activities, athletics, and a folkloric dancing group.

**VIII. Old Business:**

**IX. New Business:**

**A. Reclassification and Monitoring of English Learners by Ms. Erin Van Bebber**

Ms. Van Bebber began her presentation with an activity that assessed the parents' understanding of reclassification. She explained the terminology that would be used during the presentation. Ms. Van Bebber reviewed the reclassification process and defined reclassification. She also explained how students are reclassified and what happens after a student is reclassified as English Proficient.

After answering specific questions from the parents, Ms. Van Bebber continued with her presentation by sharing District student reclassification data from 2004-2010, which showed that rates have been increasing every year. In addition, she showed a table comparing SJUSD and Santa Clara County reclassification rates from 2004-2010 and another one comparing District and State results for the same years. After her presentation, Ms. Van Bebber returned to the parent activity sheet to check for the parents' understanding of the reclassification process after her presentation.

Ms. Van Bebber asked parents to write a question they could ask their child's teacher or site administrator regarding the progress their child is making towards reclassification and share the question with their table.

**Questions**

Ms. Herrera asked how a parent is notified about the monitoring process after the reclassification.

Ms. Van Bebber said there is no formal protocol for notifying parents about the process. The form is filed in the student cumulative folder (CUM) and parents can request that information.

A parent asked if parents were informed that there would be no more monitoring after 3 years of being reclassified.

Ms. Van Bebber answered that the parents are not notified.

There was a question about whether students who got to high school without being reclassified would have a chance to be reclassified.

Ms. Van Bebber said those students still have a chance to be reclassified in high school.

**B. Revision of the DELAC Bylaws and Vote by Nancy Albarrán**

Ms. Albarrán reviewed the recommended changes to the DELAC bylaws.

The amended articles are as follows: Article II: Objectives (Page 2), Article II: Objectives (Page 2, If), Article IV: Officers (Page 4), and Article VI: Meeting of the District English Learner Advisory Committee (Page 5).

There was discussion and clarification around the recommended changes.

Ms. Albarrán clarified that this process is only for revising the DELAC bylaws and that schools can revise their own SELAC bylaws.

Ms. Herrera asked for a motion to approve the Bylaws as presented.

Ms. Nancy Valdés clarified that the recommendations were made by some of the parents who volunteered to be in the Bylaws subcommittee. The DELAC officers did not make any of the recommendations. The officers will vote only as school representatives.

Ms. Nancy Albarrán reiterated that the officers did not make any recommendations since there was a subcommittee formed specifically for that purpose.

**Ms. Rosa Martínez** made a motion to approve the Bylaws and **Ms. Araceli Martínez** seconded.

Ms. María Elena Ramírez reaffirmed what Ms. Valdés had said and explained that the officers do not initiate motions. They were not part of the subcommittee formed to revise the bylaws. The subcommittee maintained the DELAC officers informed of the process. She said it was now the representatives' turn to vote on the recommended changes and if they had any recommendations, this was the appropriate time to make them. She clarified that only DELAC representatives may vote, but if the representative is not present, then the school alternate may vote.

A parent recommended spelling out the meaning of the codes and acronyms used in the bylaws in the event that parents were not familiar with them.

Before the vote took place, Ms. Mara Herrera read the recommended changes.

After the recommended changes were read, the voting took place.

**Twenty-three (23) representatives and two (2) alternates voted in favor and the bylaws were approved unanimously.**

**C. Evaluation and Recognition by Nancy Albarrán**

**Evaluation:**

Ms. Albarrán suggested that parents fill out the evaluations and leave them on the table or turn them in to the school, so they can mail them to the Bilingual Education Department. She said it is important to know their opinions and that the DELAC officers will meet with her next month to review the evaluations and make changes for next year.

**Recognition:**

Ms. Albarrán thanked everyone for their service and presented their certificates. The certificates were handed out by Ms. Mucetti, Ms. Albarrán, Mr. Funk, and Ms. Herrera.

Ms. Herrera gave special thanks to Mr. Funk, Ms. Mucetti and Ms. Bliss for their support.

**XI. Adjournment:**

**Ms. Erika del Muro** made a motion to adjourn the meeting and **Ms. María de la Luz Vázquez** seconded. All were in favor and **Ms. Mara Herrera** adjourned the meeting at **8:10 pm**.