

<u>FULLERTON JOINT UNION HIGH SCHOOL</u> <u>DISTRICT</u> 1051 West Bastanchury Road, Fullerton, California 92833 (714) 870-2840 Fax (714) 870-2879

# District English Learner Advisory Committee (DELAC) Minutes

Wednesday, April 25, 2018 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm Education Center - Board Room

Attendees: Steve Zamora, Director of Educational Services; Anna López, District Community Liaison; Veronica Lew, Recorder; Dr. Sylvia Kaufman, Assistant Superintendent, Education and Assessment Services; Members: Maria Robles, Ramona López, Theresa Zhang, Sylvia Hennel, Diana Hinojosa, and Sara Alonzo.

# I. Welcome

Ms. Anna López and Mr. Steve Zamora welcomed attendees. Ms. López reviewed the agenda and provided an overview of today's meeting. Introductions were made and members participated in an icebreaker activity where they shared one dream or goal they have for their high school student.

### II. Unfinished Business

*March Minutes:* Mr. Zamora moved that the minutes be approved. Ms. Ramona seconded the motion and the minutes were approved.

*Review Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) Survey Results:* Mr. Zamora presented the results from the LCAP survey. He asked members to focus on areas of improvement. Some of the topics in goal 2 include the use of technology in the classroom and customer service provided by staff members. Based on the responses, Mr. Zamora hypothesized that students may not be aware that they can seek out additional support or help. Another area of need or focus is the condition of facilities. Students responded that restrooms aren't always clean, but new policies were instituted this year resulting in custodians being in restrooms more frequently. In the area of high quality instruction, staff member responses indicated that there may be too much homework where student responses indicated that the amount was acceptable. Goal 4 included improved communication with areas of need related to adequate opportunities to voice opinions or ask questions of leadership at their school. Another question of focus was regarding timely communication from the school. A large number of responses indicated that parents were either neutral or communication with parents could improve. Students and staff responded positively to goal 5 which highlighted that parents don't feel they know what to do in cases of emergency. The District is developing improved methods for parent notification, including a phone app that parents can use in case of an emergency.

### Parent input/comments/suggestions:

Ms. Diana Hinojosa commented that her school sends many phone messages in English and many parents won't listen to the entire message because it's in English, or their student will listen and may not relay the message correctly or completely. She also mentioned that sometimes the translation is automated and not translated correctly.

Ms. Ramona López contributed that direct communication with the school is difficult and would prefer to have a direct line to a live person. She shared that when her daughter attended Sunny Hills High School, there was a direct line she was able to utilize. She has made the suggestion to the principal at Buena Park High School. Ms. Maria Robles shared that when she calls, she makes sure to wait through the menu options and speak directly to a secretary.

Ms. Ramona López contributed that school climate has changed considerably and that it's important to offer parents basic training on what to do in an emergency and what would be more harmful. She also expressed concern over what to do if an emergency was happening while parents were on campus.

Ms. Ramona López also contributed that it's important for parent orientations but since attendance at committees is low, this information should be presented at orientation or a mandatory meeting at the beginning of the year.

Facilitator response:

Dr. Kaufman suggested that Ms. Diana Hinojosa check with the school to ensure her language is tagged correctly. Mr. Zamora shared that making sure communication is available in Spanish and Korean has been an area of focus for the past few years.

Dr. Kaufman responded to Ms. Ramona López that there are practices in place to share protocols with substitute teachers and that could extend to parent policies. Mr. Zamora added that it would be simple for the District to create folders to share with parents when they are on school campuses for parent meetings.

Dr. Kaufman responded to members that their input is very useful and will be taken back to principals in order to improve the District.

### **III. New Business**

*Determine Meeting Dates for Next Year:* Ms. López presented the options for the 2018/19 DELAC meeting dates. After discussion, members voted to continue monthly meetings on Wednesday at 6:00 pm.

*Review EL Parent Survey Results:* Members were presented with the results of the EL Parent surveys. Ms. López explained that responses had doubled from the previous year, but are still low compared to the total population of EL students and parents. Parents were surveyed about school climate and the majority of parents responded positively to all questions asked. The areas of Instruction and guidance asked parents about their knowledge about their student's classes and academic achievement.

### Parent input/comments/suggestions:

Ms. Hinojosa shared that she believes parents may have responded that they don't understand the courses their child is required to take because they may not understand, but also that students themselves may not know or understand either. Parents have requested additional counselors that speak Spanish because they want to be involved in their student's education but aren't always able to get an appointment with the LHHS counselor that speaks Spanish.

Ms. Ramona López shared that even though all the counselors at BPHS only speak English, she requests someone to translate. She also mentioned that since the counselors are busy, she looks for outside resources to better understand her student's education such as Los Amigos.

Ms. Hinojosa shared that she attended PIQE and felt it was very useful and hopes that it is promoted so that more parents attend.

Ms. Hennel contributed that the school system is difficult to navigate even for native English speakers and that additional supports are necessary for EL parents.

Ms. Ramona López agreed with Mr. Zamora because she feels that by parents connecting to the school, families and communities are strengthened.

### Facilitator response:

Mr. Zamora responded to members that while Los Amigos and PIQE are valuable organizations for sharing information with parents, the District wants parents to feel connected to their student's school. While important for parents to understand school systems as a whole, it's important for parents to understand the school their student attends. The District has allowed schools to choose to offer their own parent institutes/universities or to contract with an outside agency.

*Review Draft of LCAP:* Due to time constraints, this will be discussed at the next DELAC meeting.

IV. Committee/School Site Reports - Due to time constraints, school site reports were not shared.

### **V. Announcements**

Ms. Anna López invited DELAC members to be recognized at the next Board Meeting on May 1, 2018. She also shared the credit requirements for each grade level at the end of the school year. She asked parents to monitor their student's progress to ensure they enroll in summer school if behind in credits and to be aware of student's low grades.

### VI. Adjournment

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 16, 2018 at 6 pm. The meeting adjourned at 7:34 pm.