

English Learner Advisory Committee (ELAC) Minutes
2nd Quarter Meeting

School: **Desert Sands Charter High School**

Meeting Date: **October 28th, 5:00PM**

Date Completed	
8.19.2022	1. Election of members
10.17.2022	2. Training of members on their responsibilities
10.28.2022	3. Completion of the School's Needs Assessment
8.19.2022	4. Parents review and comment on programs and services for English Learners
10.28.2022	5. Recommended actions to support regular school attendance
10.28.2022	6. Advise the PAC on the LCAP and LCP.

<p>Names of Elected ELAC Parent Members (Please include the phone numbers.)</p> <p>PRESIDENT: Maria Galvez (Destiny Eustaquio's grandmother) Cell: (661) 860-4868</p> <p>VICE PRESIDENT: Karlem Agassini (Pablo Rosas' mother) Cell: (661) 488-4537</p> <p>SECRETARY: Ana Diaz (Bryan Guillen's mother) Cell: (818) 799-5823</p>	<p>Names of Committee Members (site staff, site administration, community members and other parents)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Olga Melikova - ELL Lead 2. Jenny Bonilla - School Principal 3. Bryan Guillen - ELL Student 4. Javier Hadez - guest 5. Ana Diaz - ELL Parent (of Bryan Guillen) 6. Karlem Agassini - ELL Parent (of Pablo Rosas) 7. Joshua Fuentes - ELL Student 8. Stewart Fuentes - ELL Student 9. Dora Zelada - ELL Parent (to Stewart and Joshua) 10. Maria Moreno - ELL Parent (to Maddie McDuffy) 11. Maria Galvez - ELL Parent (to Destiny Eustaquio) 12. Destiny Eustaquio - ELL Student 13. Susy Mauricio - ELL Parent (to Naomi Mauricio) 14. Naomy Mauricio - ELL Student 15. Arlene Carmona - ELL Parent (ro Valentin Preciado) 16. Valentin Preciado - ELL Student
<p>Guest/Presenters: Destiny Carswell (Lead Tutor) Patricia Garcia (School Social Worker)</p>	<p>Child Care Provided: <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes</p>
<p>Interpreter(s) (Name and Language): Olga Melikova, Jenny Bonilla, and Patricia Garcia (Spanish)</p>	<p>Were the handouts translated? (Indicate languages translated) Yes, translated into Spanish</p>

Meeting Minutes:

Call Meeting to Order

Jenny Bonilla (Bonilla) began the meeting at 5:10PM in person at the Desert Sands Lancaster Site Conference Room. It was determined that interpretation in Spanish is needed; presentation was led in English and Spanish.

Welcome and Introductions

Introductions were made.

Title 1 Funding and LCAP Goals

To accommodate for the principal's availability, it was decided to move the Title 1 agenda discussion to the beginning of this ELAC meeting. Mrs. Bonilla provided printed copies of that piece of the presentation, these were translated into Spanish.

Title 1 was introduced with the statement that Title 1 serves "to provide all children a significant opportunity to receive a fair, equitable, and high quality education, and to close educational achievement gaps" under the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)

Then, Mrs. Bonilla reviewed what was planned for in the 21-22 school year. She said that last year's Title 1 funds were allocated to support with math intervention programs and to hire personnel. A Math 180 teacher was hired and 3 additional math tutors were hired. In result, there were a total of 5 math tutors; 22 students were identified for targeted support in the math intervention program; students were assessed every 6 months in their math NWEA levels which showed an 814 average quantile math score. It was also noted that one of the 22 students was not able to effectively use the math intervention program due to them focusing on other subjects and lack of attendance.

It was also mentioned that a portion of the Title 1 funds were also allocated to support parent and family engagement. In result, we were able to hold quarterly bilingual ELAC committees and in total, 24 different ELAC parents attended. It was noted also that there were some challenges with this second area of emphasis. One of the challenges was that while vital information was provided during the PAC and ELAC meetings, not all parents understood the information. We also had low parent attendance during these meetings, and lastly, Full parent participation in the annual survey was not reached. The next steps to target these challenges are that parents will be notified that they can ask for clarification during committee meetings, and we will also provide meetings at more accessible times for families. The next section covered was current school site data, including the 21-22 graduation rates and current NWEA reading and math levels.

After that, Mrs. Bonilla asked the members present for feedback in regards to how funding should be utilized this school year. There were a few parent comments, outlined below:

1. One parent shared that they believe assessments are important to place students in correct math classes, and suggested partnering with Sylvan Learning Centers to tests students.
2. Another parent suggested that we have an assigned tutor to student ratio, where students would be required to meet with tutors and where tutors would have caseloads of students they regularly work with.
3. Another parent suggested that we “utilize funds for EL students that need more support with their needs”
4. Another parent suggested we “use funding for music/band/dance/sports activities”

Lastly, Mrs. Bonilla asked the families present to share any ways that families could work with us to support their children's learning. Parent responses are outlined below:

1. Parent shared that she can volunteer at school to make connections with school staff/teachers so she can know if anything is going on with her student.
2. Parent spoke “A great idea to be involved and stay in communication with school.” Parents may be shy to share hard times with school but it's nice to be shown resources on how the school can make things easier. Perhaps a rideshare committee to help with transportation issues between families.
3. Parent shared that parents may want to help students with curriculum but its hard for them to help with school content. Perhaps a space for parent tutoring so they can have a better understanding of what their students are working on so they might be able to be more helpful at home with school work.
4. Parent spoke “Parents can do workshops to help support students. They can also teach other parents what they learned in the workshop or sharing resources so that learning is being shared within the parents”

Updates at Desert Sands - CASEL Presentation

It was also decided to let Lead Tutor Destiny Carswell and school social worker Patricia Garcia present the update on the CASEL approach at this time to allow for their availability. It was shared that CASEL stands for Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning. After, the What, Why, and our Hope were shared: What: Working together to provide a more holistic approach to our school environment. Providing supports in to help strengthen academic, social, and emotional wellbeing. Why: We are aware of the growing need for Social/Emotional supports. There has been a steady increase in need for our learners who are seeking counseling/mental health services. Our Hope: We hope through focuses on SEL, that our schools provide the necessary tools and resources for staff, students, parents, and the community.

It was also covered that the AV Region SEL (Social Emotional Learning) task force mission is: “to collaborate with and equip our staff, students and community with tools and

resources to foster an environment of self-awareness, self-advocacy, self-management to inspire resiliency.” With this, they shared that they have started the conversation, setting up plans to provide support for students, families, the community and staff that will help evolve the school and help people thrive. They shared that they want families/parents to feel empowered and they want them to be a part of the conversation.

After, it was shared that the Task Force needs the help of staff for Feedback, Trust, and Time. It was shared that we value parent expertise and will use any and all information to help the school create a space for all to thrive and grow. It was shared that the meetings will be held quarterly, starting January 31st in the afternoon, 1PM-3PM.

Lastly, a sign up sheet was passed around to gather interest for the SEL Task Force. E-mail addresses of presenters were posted for any questions or concerns.

Presentation of the Purpose of the ELAC

Olga Melikova took over the presentation after this, also interpreting in Spanish. The purpose of the ELAC was discussed, as well as the school’s responsibilities to the ELAC.

Review of Last Meeting Minutes

Last Meeting Minutes were shown in the presentation and read to members in Spanish. It was asked whether any changes need to be made to the meeting minutes and if the group approves these minutes. There were no questions or requests for modifications.

Updates at Desert Sands

Upcoming school events were shared with the attendees: Trunk or Treat event, Parent Teacher Conferences coming in December, No school November 11th, Thanksgiving Break, and expectation of credit completion between July-January. No questions were asked.

Review of Roberts Rule of Order and Election

Robert’s Rule of Order was briefly explained and attendees were asked if anyone would like to volunteer to run for the vice president role of the ELAC. We were able to elect a president and secretary last time but not a vice president. There was only person who volunteered, Karlem Agassini. She motioned herself to be the vice president of the ELAC. Olga Melikova seconded the motion and it was voted 14 votes yes against 0 votes no for Karlem Agassini to become the vice president of the ELAC.

Collaboration on the school's ELL Program and regular school attendance

The topic of collaborating on the school's ELL Program was raised and members were asked to share if they had any initial thoughts or questions before diving into this topic. A parent had a question regarding ELL funding, and wanted to clarify if ELL students get a portion of funding that is designated for them only. I shared that the Title 1 Funding information that was shared does include the ELL population. Then, Maria Galvez had another question regarding funding. She asked if other students in the school would also benefit from the Title 1 Funding because she said that it would be fair to allow resources for all students. I shared that a school has different forms of funding and that Title 1 is only one of them. Besides this one, there are others which are distributed for all our students.

After the questions, the members were asked to brainstorm on ways to engage student attendance as well as think of any new ideas to help improve our school's ELL program. Members were divided into small groups to brainstorm together. After brainstorming, everyone was asked to share their ideas. The ideas that were shared are the following: a proposal for ELAC members to make phone calls to ELL families with invitations to the next ELAC; and a proposal for a raffle for the next ELAC.

Below is a picture of the member collaboration time.



Future Agenda Items

Future Agenda Items were covered including the completed funding documents for the school year, and parent survey assessment results review. It was shared that the next meeting will occur in February and the last one will be held in May.

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 6:20PM.