

English Learners Advisory Committee

Minutes

April 21, 2021

1.0 Opening/Role call

Meeting called to order at 2:00PM. The meeting was held virtually on Microsoft TEAMS (due to Covid restrictions).

Parents/Staff present:

Ana Maria Rojas, Learning Lead/ELAC Chairperson; Jay Garrity, Administrator of Instructional Services; Jeanette Brown, Teacher; Alejandra Guerra, Education Specialist; Amanda Mendoza, Education Specialist; Amy Butler, Teacher on Assignment for Special Programs; Christina Charfauros, Teacher; Michael Savvas, Education Specialist/ELAC Secretary; David Saldana, Teacher; Katie Pittman, Teacher; Kent Hudson, Education Specialist; Rachel Marquardt, Teacher; Rachel Thomas, Equity & Inclusion Officer; Abraham Rodriguez, Adult Student; Anthony Schriver, Student; Claudia Moreno, Parent; Diana de Luna, Parent; Elizabeth Tamayo, Parent; Jennifer Robledo, Adult Student; Melina Garcia Herrera, Student; Raquel Maldonado, Parent; Yadira Moreno, Parent; Teodoro Pena, Parent; Guadalupe Garcia-Herrera, Parent.

2.0 New Business

Meeting facilitator/ELAC Chairperson (Ms. Rojas) made introductions and encouraged parents/students to sign into the meeting through the TEAMS meeting chat. Ms. Rojas reviewed the purpose and legal responsibilities of the English Language Advisory Committee (ELAC) meeting. Ms. Rojas shared that at this ELAC meeting the school's needs assessment will be completed. During this meeting the school will remind parents about the importance of regular school attendance, review district English Language Learner (ELL) reclassification procedures, and approve the Title III Expenditure plan.

Ms. Rojas shared that the Needs Assessment allows the school to review how they are serving ELLs and determine what the school needs to serve ELLs. Ms. Rojas discussed the question, "What are the most significant challenges that English Language Learners experience that impact their ability to achieve academically?" Ms. Rojas reviewed participation on enrollment, credit completion, and chronic absenteeism data and discussed factors and challenges that are impacting ELLs in these areas. Parent attendee shared other factors, like difficulty with attention, can make it even harder for ELLs to succeed.

Ms. Rojas reviewed graduation rate data of ELLs. Ms. Rojas discussed the questions, "What are the most impactful services/supports that our school provides to meet the needs of English Learners?" and "How can our school improve services/supports to increase English Learner school participation and academic progress?" Ms. Rojas reviewed what EL supports are currently used, which include Achieve 3000 curriculum, literature circles/small group tutoring, individual tutoring, Edgenuity curriculum, Brainpop curriculum with visual supports, EL progress monitoring by school administrators, embedded English Language supports in school curriculum, customizable English Language Development courses/literacy courses, and technology including Chromebooks and Internet Hotspots. Parent attendee shared that Brainpop curriculum and individualized support has been beneficial for her student. Another parent attendee shared that Achieve 3000 has been beneficial, but she would like a parent training on Achieve 3000, so she can learn how to support her student and monitor progress. Ms. Rojas responded that school is conducting a Family Learning Series to support parents/families and will note that Achieve 3000 should be a training topic.

Mr. Jay Garrity (Administrator of Instructional Services) reviewed school LCAP (Local Control Accountability Plan) and how parents can provide input. LCAP was paused for 2020-2021 school year, but it will be used and developed for the 2021-2022 school year. LCAP addresses the needs of all students, but also focuses on specific student subgroups (including ELLs) to ensure equity and access for all students. 2021-2022 LCAP will address five goal areas which are: Instructional Program, Standards Aligned Curriculum, Professional Learning System, Safe and Supportive School Climate, and Engaging Resource Centers. Mr. Garrity reviewed key services for ELLs which include Altus Connect Program, English Learner Achievement Department (ELAD), Achieve 3000 curriculum, Equity and Inclusion Program, and Bus Pass Program.

Mr. Garrity also discussed Title III Expenditure Plan to help ensure that ELLs attain English Language proficiency and meet state academic standards. Majority of Title III funds are spent on Achieve3000 and Edgenuity educational programs. Mr. Garrity reviewed the benefits of Achieve 3000 and Edgenuity and how these programs are used to support ELLs. Mr. Garrity shared that there will be a survey sent out where parents/families can share their input regarding Title III funding.

Ms. Rojas reviewed ELL Reclassification Criteria. School ELL Reclassification Process includes four criteria that ELL students must meet to be reclassified as English proficient. The reclassification criteria comes from the California Department of Education (CDE) guidelines. The four reclassification criteria are: students receiving an English Language Proficiency Assessment for California (ELPAC) score of 4, teacher evaluation, parent opinion/consultation, and standardized assessment results which include NWEA MAPs assessments and SBA assessments.

Ms. Rojas reviewed school ELL parent notifications. When a student enrolls in a new school, parents receive an Initial Notification letter which informs parents of their child's identification as an ELL or fluent-English proficient. Parents also receive an annual parent notification that informs parents of their child's continued identification as an English Learner. School parent notification letter templates come from the California Department of Education.

3.0 Upcoming Events/Announcements

Ms. Rojas informed parents about school Family Resource Night and a scholarship opportunity for current or former ELLs that are currently in the twelfth grade. The next Family Resource Night is on April 29 at 5PM and will cover Title I. Information for the scholarship opportunity for twelfth grade ELLs can be found at <https://learnmore.scholarsapply.org/ellevationeducation/>.

4.0 Public Comments

Facilitator provided an opportunity for public comment. Parent attendee provided a comment where she thanked the school for all of the information presented during the meeting. No other public comments were presented.

5.0 **Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 2:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

ELAC Secretary, Michael Savvas

ELAC Chairperson, Ana Maria Rojas