

Twin Rivers Unified School District

District English Learner Advisory Committee (DELAC)

October 5, 2017 | 5:45 P.M. – 7:45 P.M. | Sycamore Conference Room, District Office

Minutes

---

Alberto Becerra, Coordinator of English Learner Services welcomed all parents and staff.

Mr. Becerra let parents know that Dr. Steven Martinez was unable to attend due to being at another engagement. Mr. Becerra introduced Dr. Sara Noguchi, Associate Superintendent. Dr. Noguchi shared that Dr. Martinez has asked her to come speak on his behalf. Dr. Noguchi welcomed and thanked all parents for their participation.

Dr. Noguchi shared one highlight of what Dr. Steven Martinez has put a lot of time, energy, funds, and training on and that is the new SWUN Math Program, Dr. Martinez believes that it'll do great things for the students. Dr. Noguchi also shared that this year Dr. Martinez has put a lot of resources into increasing engagement opportunity in the district and will be expanding even more with activities into after-school programs. Dr. Noguchi informed parents that they will hear a little about LCAP, that is the way to get their voice heard and for them to say what they want for their students because they know their child best. Dr. Noguchi asked parents to bring someone next time whether it is a friend or a neighbor, the more people you have here, the bigger your voice is. Dr. Noguchi thanked parents for their time.

Mr. Becerra introduced Christine Moran, Coordinator of Special Projects. Mrs. Moran shared a PowerPoint and presented on the Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP). Mrs. Moran shared about last year's parent meeting and comments, there were over 30 meetings and over 5,000 comments received. Mrs. Moran reviewed on LCAP, sharing the TRUSD Core Beliefs and how it fits within the 8 States Priority. Mrs. Moran asked if there were any questions and thanked parents.

Mr. Alberto Becerra and Dr. Jisel Villegas, Coordinators of English Learner Services shared with parents that there is about 22% percent of English Learner (EL) students in the district, at about 5856 students that are English Learners. The main primary languages spoken in the district are English being the main language, Spanish at 29%, Hmong and Russian in the past were at 15% or above but now Hmong are at 3.6% and Russian are at 1.7%.

Mr. Becerra shared that both Dr. Villegas and himself had the pleasure of being able to attend ELAC at different sites. Dr. Villegas, shared with Parents that within the California Laws if there are more than 51 EL students within a school site, that school site will have to form an English Learner Advisory Committee (ELAC). Mr. Becerra shared with the parents, the purpose of ELAC and DELAC. ELAC is where parents will be elected as a representative to meet with their site ELAC team to discuss what is going on at the site, regards to English Learners and programs that are offered. DELAC is in place to develop new ideas, programs, share knowledge, and inform parents of what happens at the district level.

Mr. Becerra shared that the EL Roadmap to Learning (EL Master Plan) has information regards to evaluating programs, English Learner guiding, Secondary Placement Level, and many other services that ELSD offers. Due to evaluating each program, the EL Master Plan is getting revised yearly. EL Roadmap to Learning (EL Master Plan) is available in English and Spanish if anyone is interested please contact the EL Department.

Dr. Villegas shared that on October 5<sup>th</sup> is the new cycle of the language assessment and at some point, Mr. Chris Arnold will share some information about the language assessment information on who enrolled in our district as far as languages, who we need to serve and how we need to serve them and this information will be given to the state.

Mr. Becerra shared that all document sent out by English Learner Services Department(ELSD) will need to be translated into languages that meet the 15% in the district and same goes to all school site. Due to new data this school year, the requirements will change for the site and the district. Mr. Becerra stated that we won't be necessarily obligated to send information in Hmong and Russian anymore but we are still continuing to do that. Mr. Becerra asked parents to ask for Interpretation services if needed for any parent conferences. Mr. Becerra stated that anyone needing an interpreter, a request must be submitted 2 weeks prior to the date. Principal Jennifer Ekeland asked regarding Teacher Parent Conferences that are coming up? Mr. Becerra let everyone know that the ELSD has contracted with other agencies and it will also be offered to any Academic Intervention Specialist Bilingual within the ELSD.

Mr. Becerra shared about each program offered by the English Learner Services Department;

- Sobrato Early Academic Language (SEAL), a program that ELSD has been piloting since last year with students who are in grades K-1 continuing this year with students who are in grades 2-3, this program is available at Castori Elementary and Hazel Strauch Elementary. Mr. Becerra asked Mrs. Jennifer Ekeland, Principal of Woodlake to share about the program and her experiences when she was at Castori Elementary last year. Mrs. Ekeland shared about how it has increased student's reading level, engagement, and how she would love to have this program at her new site.
- Dual Language Immersion program is available for K-2nd grade students at Madison Elementary and Noralto Elementary, this program is 50/50 instructed in English and Spanish. Dr. Villegas share with parents on how to apply for this program, parents will have to go the school directly to talk to the principal.
- For Riptide Summer Program a math course has been developed based upon the inputs from LCAP.
- AREA 3 Writing Project is a program to train teachers on writing to help English Learners, last year the program was provided for K-12 teachers and this year's focus will be on the elementary teacher and long-term English learner teachers.

- Newcomer Digital Initiative (NDI) (2nd-6th grade) and Imaging Learning (K-6th grade), it is both a computer base program for elementary level students. These two program are for CELDT level 1 student. Mr. Becerra shared that the Public Library is also providing a program called Mango, it has over 70 world languages and it provides interactive learning video with real-world language and cultural immersion.
- Inspire Literacy (iLit), it is a computer-based program for secondary level for students in grade 7-12. Dr. Villegas let parents know that for any student who does not have internet access at home, they will be given a device that shuts off from 12am – 6am, this program reads out loud to the students and it has over 100 Languages to help with student's homework.

Dr. Villegas shared that when enrolling your student, each parent will have to fill out a form called Home Survey, there will be 4 question on the form and if YES is answered on any of the 4 questions, the student will be CELDT tested. The student can exit the program but the student will need to meet certain criteria. Dr. Villegas shared that in 2015-16, 2003 students were reclassified, in 2016-17, 819 students were reclassified, and this year it is expected to be lower, probably in the 300. Dr. Villegas shared that 250 students will need to be retested and can be tested using CELDT until November 30, 2017, any student who gets reclassified after November 30, 2017, will be monitored for 4 years, monitoring students will start this fall.

Mr. Becerra shared that ELPAC windows are from Feb 1 – May 31 and will always be given in the springtime. Dr. Villegas shared that for ELPAC Initial, it'll go live and the tests will be score locally. Dr. Villegas shared that ELPAC will be coming out with resources and student can take a practice test.

Dr. Villegas shared that once a student gets reclassified, parents and student will receive a notice from the school site and ELSD will provide a reclassification certificate. Dr. Villegas share that students can go onto ELPAC.org and practice test are available.

Dr. Villegas shared about Placement, a focus group will be formed to look closely into making sure students are in the right placement. This group consists of 27 individuals – Admin/Teachers/TOSA/Payroll/Human Resource and a process will be shared at the end of December 2017.

Mr. Becerra shared that, with the Refugee Grant, they were able to hire 1 Counselor to be at Foothill Ranch Middle School and 1 Community Liaison to be at Foothill High School and gathered 151 students into the program. Mr. Victor Aguilera, Vice Principal of Foothill High School shared how the students really appreciate what Mrs. Esmatulla and Mrs. Favrin do.

Dr. Villegas informed parents about CAFE, this year ELSD will be sending 10 parents, Mrs. Martha Florez will be leading parents to CAFE for 3 days. It will take place in Sacramento and there will be no childcare. Flyers will be given out and names will be pulled on the next DELAC in December.

Meeting adjourned at 7:17 PM.

Next DELAC will be on  
December 6, 2017  
Sycamore Conference Room, District Office  
8:30AM-10:30AM