



Coachella Valley Unified School District
87225 Church Street, Thermal, CA 92274
District English Learner Advisory Committee (DELAC)

03 March 2021
5:30 pm - 7:00 pm

Zoom Link: <https://bit.ly/CV-DELAC>
Session #: 861 4659 6829
Password: DELAC

MINUTES

I. PRELIMINARY: DELAC President

A. Call to Order _____ Time _____

B. List:

Elementary

- Cesar Chavez
- Coral Mountain Academy
- John Kelley
- Las Palmitas
- Mecca School
- Mountain Vista
- Oasis
- Palm View School

Middle Schools

- Bobby Duke
- Cahuilla Desert Academy
- Toro Canyon

High Schools

- Coachella Valley
- Desert Mirage
- The Family
- West Shores

District EL Coordinator

District EL Director

Representative of the Board of Directors - Arredondo

Representative of the Board of Directors - Vargas

C. Quorum: _____

D. Approval by _____ Seconded _____ Vote _____

Corrections: _____

E. Approval of minutes _____ Seconded _____ Vote _____

Corrections: _____

COMMITTEE/SPECIAL SPORTS: None

Welcome

Ms. Gutierrez called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m. and welcomed everyone who was present. Dr. Hernandez welcomed and thanked those present for their attendance and commented that there were many important topics covered today. Ms. Gutierrez asked everyone to share in the chat box their name, their son/daughter's name and the school they represent. An example of where the chat box can be found and how to include their information was shown. Ms. Gutierrez thanked and welcomed some of the persons who signed up in the chat box. Ms. Gutierrez introduced the district team members present and introduced the Interim Superintendent, Mr. Juan Lopez and explained that Mr. Juan Lopez will be in this position until a new Superintendent is hired to represent the district. She also shared that Board Member Trinidad Arredondo will not be present at this meeting due to a board meeting that will be held at 6:00 p.m. Ms. Gutierrez introduced another board member present, Ms. Jocelyn Vargas. Ms. Vargas apologized that she will have to leave the meeting early due to her attendance at the board meeting that will have the topic of finding the new district superintendent. Ms. Gutierrez reviewed the agenda for today and shared that in the future the new president is going over the agenda with everyone.

- DELAC Board Member Voting Results
- School Reopening and Safety Plan
- Title III Budget
- Dual Language Immersion Program Update
- Summer School
- LCAP
- Community Resources
- May Meeting - Possible Themes

Ms. Gutierrez again asked those present to enter their information in the chat box.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Reports of DELAC Members (3 min/school)

- Mr. Piza, representing Toro Canyon School, shared that at their last meeting at the school they shared information on the use of money at the district level. He also stated that the results of an attendance and truancy survey were shared with parents and shared that it appears that internet connection has a lot to do with the results. Mr. Piza shared information on another survey that was taken with 100 parents of English Learners and their knowledge of the program and reclassification and shared that at this time Toro Canyon has 150 students at a level 3 reclassification.
- Ms. Miriam Juarez representing West Shores School shared that Mr. Ramirez shared the opportunity to participate in the CAFE conference and that expenses will be covered by the district for two parents from the school and that if there are more parents involved they can look at ways to assist the parents. She also shared that she communicated ways to nominate outstanding individuals at our school to the regional competition and communicated the opportunity for a \$1,000 scholarship for students. Ms. Miletic shared about the assistance she is providing to English Learners to help them reclassify.
- Ms. Gutierrez thanked them for sharing and for talking about such important issues in their schools. She also said that there is still time to participate in CAFE, they just need to contact us. Ms. Gutierrez stated that she cannot share the results of the BEST Award nominations yet, but she can share that there is very good news for West Shores School.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- There is no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS/SPORTS - Discussion

DELAC Board Member Voting Results

- Ms. Gutierrez spoke about the nominations for the DELAC board. She shared that as in ELAC nominations are made at the school, for DELAC nominations are also made, but by our group. Ms. Gutierrez introduced the new president Miriam Juarez, vice president Israel Piza and secretary Enia Selena Perea.
- Ms. Juarez thanked for the opportunity and explained that it is a pleasure and a great responsibility and that she looks forward to working with everyone for the good of the students. She thanked them for the confidence.

- Mr. Piza thanked and shared with the other board members that it is not just about getting to the top, but constantly moving forward and that he knows that very good things will be done.
- Ms. Perea introduced herself and thanked for the opportunity and shared that she has always liked to be present at the meetings. She shared that she knows Ms. Juarez and that she knows we have a very good president. She also shared that Mr. Piza is a very hard worker and will do a very good job and that together they will support the students.
- Ms. Gutierrez thanked and congratulated them all.

School Re-opening Plan

- Ms. Gutierrez shared that this information is information that Assistant Superintendent Dr. Paredes has shared with the district board and that this plan is not yet approved. This information changes daily depending on the Covid-19 caseload numbers in the state and county. She explained that this plan will be shared with the board again at the next board meeting and they are hoping it will be approved so they can submit it to the county.
- Ms. Gutierrez shared that she is talking about two different plans, small groups and hybrid learning. Ms. Gutierrez explained that the students in these small groups/cohorts were chosen to participate due to a lot of absences, internet connection issues, students who are homeless or in Foster care as well as high school students at risk of not graduating. She explained that the elementary schools will have one group of 14 and the middle and elementary schools will have two to three groups of 14 students at a time. Ms. Gutierrez explained that for small groups there is no need to have the plan approved by the state (only locally) and said that this plan is simply to provide a home where students can connect to the computer with their same teacher while being supervised by a substitute teacher.

Small Group

Elementary	1 substitute	14 students max
Middle School	1-2 substitutes	28 students max
High School	1-3 substitutes	42 students max

(tentative plan - not approved at this stage)

Ms. Gutierrez also showed a table showing the number of students who fall under certain criteria for which small group selections were made in each school.

School	Total	Foster/Homeless	Absenteesism	Connection	Special Ed	Transportation
Elementary	188	67	137	69	19	74
Middle School	94	19	72	67	12	51
High School	73	5	23	30	7	28
TOTAL	355	91	232	232	38	153

Ms. Gutierrez shared details for small groups:

- will be online accessing synchronous instruction from their regular classroom teacher.
- will use the district's wifi and receive support from staff to encourage their participation.
- may have mixed grade levels, but the different groups will not be mixed.
- will receive intervention for afternoon credit recovery (high school)
- will receive grab-n-go food (take-away)
- will need parental permission to attend in-person instruction.
- will be able to use the transportation service if they are eligible

Ms. Gutierrez continued with an explanation of hybrid learning and shared that this option is for any student who wants to go back to school and that it will be in overall larger school site groups as opposed to the small groups where it is by invitation only. Ms. Gutierrez explained that for hybrid learning the plan will need to be approved in order to submit it to the county. She also said that there is no exact number, it depends on the survey that parents took in October. An opportunity for the survey to be taken again will be provided in case parents have now changed their mind and would like their child to participate in hybrid learning. Ms. Gutierrez shared the goal of hybrid learning, stating it is for students who are ready for in-person instruction back to school, providing some normalcy and an opportunity to further address the academic gaps that our students have.

She explained that before opening the doors to students, there must be transparency.

- Follow up with all staff and students who test positive, go home with symptoms or come into contact with a COVID-19 person.
- Provide guidance on when staff/students can return according to RCDH health protocols.
- School staff will be informed when necessary to maintain confidentiality.

Ms. Gutierrez explained that under either of the plans if your child was exposed to someone with COVID-19 a letter will be sent home and county protocol will be followed if someone tests positive. The letter will identify when those exposed can return and she assured that everything will be confidential. Ms. Gutierrez went on to share the protocols to follow and added that these are the guidelines at this time but may change due to current numbers and changes in protocols that may be sent by the county.

In collaboration with the Riverside County Department of Public Health, district staff and health professionals will inform principals if and when a school would need to return to distance learning for 14 days.

- Two or more cohorts each have two or more students or staff members who have been identified as COVID-19 positive during a 14-day period.
- When 5% or more of staff or students have been identified as positive for COVID-19 within a 14-day period.

Ms. Gutierrez reviewed additional school re-opening and safety plan details:

- Daily health screenings and temperature checks will be implemented for all students, staff and visitors.
- All students and staff will be required to follow proper hand hygiene procedures. Hand sanitizing areas and hand sanitizer will be available throughout the campus.
- Physical distancing will be required. Congregation between staff or students will not be permitted. Desk barriers shall be used in student and staff seating areas.
- Masks are required to be worn at all times. Reusable masks will be provided for staff and students. Disposable masks will be on hand for those who may need one.
- Each classroom and school office has been equipped with an air purifier. Air purifiers will be used as needed.
- Each site has an isolation room or a designated area to house people showing symptoms of COVID-19. The room has access to a bathroom and its own exit route. Isolation rooms will be monitored.
- Each school site has a plan for disinfecting. All common areas will be disinfected daily.
- Personal protective equipment shall be available to all personnel.

- All site visits for non-staff members will require appointments. Non-essential visitors will not be allowed on campus.

Ms. Gutierrez showed pictures showing what the protective desk dividers look like, notices of rules to follow around the school and pictures of the air purifiers that will be available throughout the school campus. She also talked about transportation and explained that each school will set up designated bus areas and student drop-off and pick-up zones. She also showed a photograph showing how the seats on the buses are marked for students to keep their distance. Another photograph also showed how the buses are being disinfected.

Ms. Gutierrez spoke about nutrition and explained that students learning on site will receive a breakfast to be consumed in an outdoor common area. A packed lunch will be provided at the end of the day before the students leave for home consumption.

Ms. Gutierrez shared the next steps to be taken.

1. Finalize hybrid MOU with CVTA and start with CSEA
2. Complete and submit the school orientation checklist COVID-19
3. Share the COVID-19 security plan with parent organizations, CVTA and CSEA.
4. Present the COVID-19 security plan at the March 11, 2021 board meeting.
5. Tentative start date: April

Ms. Gutierrez allowed a few minutes for questions.

- Ms. Juarez of WSHS asked how many minutes will the small groups attend school?
Ms. Gutierrez replied that it would be the same timetable as the one they have at the moment as virtual learning. The schedule would remain the same depending on the grade level.
- Ms. Diaz from VV asked if hybrid learning will be back to school for all or will it be optional for those who choose this option?
Ms. Gutierrez replied that it would be optional for those who choose.
- Mr. Piza of TCMS asked if the students attending the hybrid learning will have the same teachers they have now?
Ms. Gutierrez replied that it is most likely that they will not have the same teacher and may even change the teacher of students who do not attend hybrid learning.
- Mrs. Perea from CVHS asked what the practices for student sports will be like at the high school?
Ms. Gutierrez replied that she is not sure at the moment but that she will check and get back to her.
- Mrs. Rodriguez, CVHS teacher, replied that in some schools practices have already started, students wear masks and with distance, she also mentioned that there has to be staff present supervising at all times and that the amount of games will be reduced and only played outside.
- Ms. Gutierrez thanked everyone for their excellent questions.

Title III Budget

Dr. Hernandez shared details of the budget and funding for English learner supports. She explained that this plan was developed with parent input in mind. She explained that due to the pandemic it has not been possible to carry out all of the plans as originally planned. She explained that creativity has had to be used to carry out all the plans. Details about the Title III plan were shown in a table and the expenditures for each of the main categories was briefly reviewed.

Summer school services and professional training for summer staff will increase as a result of projected expenses that will not be incurred due to:

- Schools did not open
- Not as many students are signing up for supplementary services.
- Not a many staff is taking on additional work

Dr. Hernandez shared that they have struggled when it comes to tutoring because students don't come into class after being in virtual school all day. They have also struggled to find teachers interested in providing tutoring, she shared that they may be a bit overwhelmed and therefore do not want to participate. The professional development funds have been able to be used and she added that it is important to stress that if this year's funds are not used, they can be used next year. Dr. Hernandez added that the funds can also be used for summer school, which is currently being planned.

At this time Dr. Hernandez asked the parents present to please take some time to enter their opinions in the chat box on how Title III funds can be used. Ms. Gutierrez shared some of the suggestions that have been suggested in the past and have been able to be incorporated into the program, such as more mentors in the schools and the newcomer tool bags which are under development this year. Ms. Gutierrez shared a suggestion from the chat that suggests training for teachers to support students to reclassify before graduation. Ms. Gutierrez shared some other suggestions such as parent training and included that although we will be moving on to the next topic they can continue to include suggestions in the chat box. All suggestions were noted.

Dual Immersion Program Update

Ms. Gutierrez spoke about the Dual Immersion program and showed a table that included the new schools that now offer the program and a table that included the schools that already had the program in place.

New Schools with DL	
John Kelley	23
Las Palmitas	22
Mountain Vista	18
Palm View	23
Sea View	17
Valley of the Sol	24
Westside	15

Schools Established with DL	
Cesar Chavez	314
Coral Mountain	312
Mecca	165

Oasis	149
Peter Pendleton	150
Saul Martinez	218
Valley View	202

Ms. Gutierrez explained that the 80%/20% model was used, 80% in Spanish and 20% in English and each year the percentage of English grows by 10% increments until reaching 50% in Spanish and 50% in English. Ms. Gutierrez discussed enrollment for the program and explained that the program starts in kindergarten and not in TK. Ms. Gutierrez reported that schools have already been informed of the importance of offering this option when registering students. Reports will also be sent home.

Ms. Gutierrez shared the numbers of students currently enrolled in the program at the middle school level and explained that this program is now being offered at the high school level. She also displayed a chart showing the total number of students taking foreign language classes, which was offered this year for the first time.

Dual Language Immersion Program - Middle Schools	
Bobby Duke	58
Cahuilla Desert Academy	88
Toro Canyon	

Foreign Language	
Bobby Duke	30
Cahuilla Desert Academy	53
Toro Canyon	30

Ms. Gutierrez shared that information nights will be offered for students entering high school to see if they are interested in continuing the dual immersion program in high school. Ms. Gutierrez showed an example of what a student's daily schedule would look like in this program.

SAMPLE SCHEDULE	
1	Math
2	Social Studies
3	PE / Physical Education
4	English Language Arts
5	Science
6	Spanish Language Art
7	Elective

Ms. Gutierrez shared the goal of students being part of the dual language program and explained that at the end of eighth grade the Spanish placement test is taken.

Ms. Gutierrez provided details and information on how to obtain the State Seal of Biliteracy:

- Obtain the State Seal of Biliteracy by meeting the established criteria.
- Reading Ballot
- Reclassification
- CAASPP of 3 or 4
- Pass the AP or SAT II with a 600+.

Summer School

Ms. Gutierrez shared that plans are still being worked on for summer school in collaboration with the Educational Services team and explained that the plan is for there to be multiple programs, based on funding and requirements. She expressed that hopefully they will be in-person classes but that it is not yet known for sure. Ms. Gutierrez proceeded to display a chart showing the programs and what is required to qualify for each.

Coachella Valley Unified School District Program

- K-2
- Struggling academically
- Middle school bridge
- Credit recovery

Coachella Valley Unified School District Migrant Program

- Migrant funds
- K-12
- All schools

- Credit recovery

Coachella Valley Unified School District English Language Learner Program

- Title III

- 3-8

- 18 Schools

Ms. Gutierrez explained that if any student does not qualify under the criteria of some of the programs they may qualify under another. She also communicated that applications will open at the end of April and said that although the focus is academic they also want students to have fun. Finally, Ms. Gutierrez shared the summer school plan is pending board review.

Ms. Juarez from WSHS asked, how do you make sure that parents who have a hard time with technology apply for their children?

Ms. Gutierrez replied that when the links are sent home it is also shared that they can talk to us to help them with the application over the phone.

Ms. Juarez from WSHS thanked and shared that is the a primary thing and talked about finding a way to get the importance of the dual immersion program across and the doors that will be opened by being in that program.

Ms. Gutierrez thanked Ms. Juarez and assured that it will be presented to all the schools as was done last year and all the data was shared.

Mr. Pizza from TCMS commented that fortunately today we have this program that statistically shows improvement in testing and we need to continue to offer this program to parents.

LCAP

Ms. Gutierrez shared that there will be no DELAC meeting in April due to LCAP information sessions. The sessions will be March 17 and 30 from 4:00 - 5:00 and 5:00 - 6:00 pm. Ms. Gutierrez encouraged parents to attend at least one of these meetings to learn more about the LCAP.

Community Resources

Dr. Hernandez showed informational flyers for free testing for COVID-19 as well as flyers with free food and medical resources. She also shared flyers for health and wellness classes offered through Zoom. Dr. Hernandez also displayed a flyer with information for the spring break program for migrant students and shared that there is limited space. She also shared a flyer for the creative writing workshop and zine. Dr. Hernandez discussed the tools found in the ELPAC video and shared the link.

ELPAC Spanish video:

http://bit.ly/cvUSD_ELPACvideo

ELPAC English video:

http://bit.ly/cvUSD_ELPACvideoEN

Ms. Gutierrez expressed that she hopes they will be able to attend the LCAP meeting and that the next DELAC meeting will be on May 5. She thanked everyone for their participation in the meeting today.

- May Meeting - Possible Topics
- Title III - Budget Planning
- State Seal of Approval for Bilingual Literacy / 6th Grade Bilingual Literacy Awards
- _____
- _____

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

NEXT MEETING – LCAP: March 17 and 30

NEXT MEETING - DELAC May 5, 2021

CLOSING motion made by _____ Seconded _____ Time _____