



## **Santa Barbara Unified**

Every child, every chance, every day.

District Emergent Multilingual Learner Advisory Committee  
(DEMLAC) Minutes  
Thursday, September 21, 2023  
6:00pm - 7:30pm

### **1. Welcome and Interpretation Announcement**

#### **a. Interpretation announcement, Sofia Rubalcava, Language Access Unit**

Interpretation is available in both English and Spanish. Headphones were distributed as needed.

#### **b. Dr. Deborah Martinez, Director, Educational Equity and Multilingual Services** Dr.

Deborah Martinez welcomed all the District Emergent Multilingual Learner Committee (DEMLAC) attendees.

#### **c. Janina Martinez, Educational Services Family Engagement Unit Liaison** Janina

Martinez welcomed all back to the 1st in person meeting in three years.

### **2. Call to Order and Review of Norms**

#### **a. Call to order, Socorro Ramirez, DEMLAC Co-President** The meeting was

called to order at 6:16pm.

#### **b. DEMLAC Executive Members Introduction** The District Emergent Multilingual Learners Advisory Committee Executive Committee (DEMLAC) introduced themselves:

- Socorro Ramirez, Co-President
- Margarita Mendoza, Advisor (Past President)
- Irlanda Gomez, Secretary
- Rosy Alcalá, Parliamentarian

They welcomed and extended their gratitude to those who were present and able to join the in person meeting.

#### **c. Review of Norms, Rosy Alcalá, DEMLAC Parliamentarian** Rosy Alcalá reviewed, presented and reviewed the meeting norm and expectations.

**3. Public Comments, Socorro Ramirez** Janina Marintez presented and reviewed the new in person public comment procedure. There will now be blue public comment cards that will need to be filled out and handed in prior to speaking on any general and or item on the agenda. Help with filling out the card will be available before and during the meetings. Socorro Ramirez stated that each public comment speaker will be allotted two minutes (2) per item. Public comment cards were distributed and collected.

**4. Old Business, Irlanda Gómez, DEMLAC Secretary** Irlanda Gómez presented the minutes from **April 20, 2023** and **May 18, 2023** for review and approval. The minutes were reviewed and no changes needed.

**Motion to approve the minutes from April 20, 2023, (1st: Odilia Hernandez 2nd: Virginia Soto All in favor / No opposition). Minutes from April 20, 2023 approved as presented.**

**Motion to approve the minutes from May 18, 2023. (1st: Mayra Osequeda 2nd: Irlanda Gomez All in favor / No opposition). Minutes from May 18, 2023 approved as presented.**

**5. New Business, Socorro Ramírez, DEMLAC Co-President**

- a. Ratification of DEMLAC 2023-2024 Calendar** Socorro Ramirez presented the revised DEMLAC 2023-2024 for review and consideration. All meetings will be held in person at the district office.

**Motion to ratify the District Emergent Multilingual Learners Advisory Committee Executive Committee (DEMLAC) 2023-20234 calendar. (1st: Odilia Hernandez 2nd: Mayra Osequeda All in favor / No opposition). The DEMLAC 2023-2024 Calendar was ratified as presented.**

- b. Dr. Maldonado, Superintendent** Janina Martinez apologized on behalf of Dr. Hilda Maldonado as there was conflict and she was not able to attend tonight.

Dr. Deborah Martinez presented The Every Child Book. This is a district wide campaign to spotlight the tale of two cities within our district and help address the disparity within those communities. Principals will be distributing and communicating with their families regarding this campaign and work to make every student feel essential and part of their school community. Copies of the book are made available at the meeting.

- c. Dr. Martinez, My Story** Dr. Deborah Martinez shared her leadership story and path towards becoming the Director of Educational Equity and Emergent Multilingual Services for Santa Barbara Unified School District.

The Martinez family migrated from Jerez, Zacatecas, Mexico to Los Angeles, California. Martinez is cognizant of her roots and being bi-cultural and bilingual and acknowledges her family's hard work ethic and the value of education. With twelve years as a bilingual teacher, leading to school administration, and district office leadership. All stories begin with the support of our families and parents. Martinez emphasized that her biggest teacher was her father who tragically passed away in a car accident.

Socorro Ramirez, Co-President and Dr. Lynne Sheffield thanked Dr. Martinez for sharing her story / moving testimony.

**d. Dr. Sheffield, Presentation on College and Career Readiness** Dr. Lynne Sheffield Presented the College and Career Readiness Initiative for 2023-2024. The initiative is scheduled to go to the board in October. The initiative includes introducing the team, a new webpage, a monthly newsletter, college visits, college fair in November, monthly visitation dates at the high schools. College and career readiness initiatives will include:

- Parent Empowerment - Saturday, October 21, 2023
- High School Showcase - Wednesday, November 29, 2023
- College Wear Wednesday (to help promote and showcase trade and higher learning)
- Senior Highlights (social media highlights with a focus on the countdown to graduation)
- Senior Waks (have graduation senior walk and showcase graduation by engaging with TK-12 sites)

Sheffield shared the District mission of “Every Child, Every Day, Every Chance” and the ABC wheel:

- A - Academics, Arts, and Athletics
- B - Belonging
- C - Community and Collaboration

Sheffield thanked the committee for the time and opened the floor for questions. No questions asked. Just a request to share the powerpoint and flyers for the various events. Powerpoint will be made available and shared after it has been reported and shared with the board in October.

**e. Janina Martinez, Information on voting new members** Janina Martinez reviewed the Executive Committee vacancies and responsibilities for the 2023-2024 year as per the bylaws Article III, Section 1 - Composition of the DEMLAC:

- Co-Presidents (2 vacancies)
- Secretary (1 vacancy)

Martinez shared the DEMLAC Officer nomination form and QR code. Stating that the nomination form will be going out district wide to all emergent multilingual (EML) families. Messaging to follow after the meeting.

Marina Zarate, DEMLAC Executive Committee Advisor shared her experience joining the committee. Stating that being an executive committee member gives parents a voice, it is a learning and sharing experience, and it is not a long commitment. Adding that parent participation has been increasing.

Zarate invited all to consider being a part of the executive committee and to help make a difference for our students.

**6. EMLAC Site Reports, Socorro Ramirez, DEMLAC Co-President** Socorro Ramirez reviewed the report template and opened the floor to the individual site reports. Marina Zarate gave the San Marcos High School report first to help demonstrate the report format.

- **San Marcos High School - Marina Zarate** Reported the last meeting was on 9/11/23. Topics included selecting the executive committee and designated alternates, senior night, PEAC tutoring. Next meeting is 11/9/23.
- **Adams Elementary School - Virginia Soto** Reported the executive committee has two vacancies and the next meeting is 12/4/23.
- **Cleveland Elementary School** - No representative / No report.
- **Franklin Elementary School - Xochitl Tafoya, Assistant Principal** Reported no meeting has been held. Meeting scheduled for 10/11/23 and will hold elections on that date.
- **Harding University Partnership School - Martin Cook, Assistant Principal** Reported no meeting has been held. Looking at mid October to schedule a meeting.
- **McKinley Elementary School - Mayra Osequeda** Reported no meeting has been held. Meeting scheduled. Coffee with the Principal was held and 40 parents attended. Back to school was held. School picnic with students set for 9/29/23.
- **Monroe Elementary School** - No representative / No report.
- **Roosevelt Elementary School - Margarita Mendoza** Reported meeting was held on 9/5/23 with 8 parents attending. Topics discussed reclassification and Roosevelt's 100 year celebration.
- **Santa Barbara Community Academy** No representative / No report.
- **Washing Elementary School - Irlanda Gomez** Reported no meeting has been held but is scheduled for 10/4/23. Back to school was on 9/14/23 and a Coffee with the Principal has also been held.

#### **7. Announcements Margarita Mendoza / Marina Zarate, Advisors to Co-Presidents**

- Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) meeting scheduled for 9/27/23 at 6:00pm.

There was a Public Comment card filled out earlier and time was made for the request at this time.

- **Item - English Language Proficiency Assessment of California (ELPAC) Testing**  
Time was made to review English Language Proficiency Assessment of California (ELPAC) testing (initial / summative ), reclassification, and the testing schedule. The floor was open for questions and all questions / concerns were addressed.

The next meeting is scheduled for 11/30/23. See attached calendar with the full year calendar of meetings.

**8. Adjournment Margarita Mendoza / Marina Zarate, Co-Presidents** Marina Zarate thanked the interpreters, Dr. Martinez, Janina, the executive committee and all present for attending.

**The DEMLAC general meeting was adjourned at 8:07pm.**