



# Santa Barbara Unified

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720 Santa Barbara Street

Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Phone: 805.963.4338

TDD: 805.966.7734

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## Minutes

### District Emergent Multilingual Learner Advisory Committee (DEMLAC)

February 28, 2024

6:00pm - 7:30pm

Time Certain /  Tiempo Cierto	<b>Agenda</b> District Emergent Multilingual Learner Advisory Committee Wednesday, February 28, 2024 6:00pm -7:30pm In person District Board Room	<b>Orden del día</b> Comité Asesor de Alumnos Multilingües Emergentes del Distrito Miércoles 28 de febrero del 2024 6:00 p.m. a 7:30 p.m . En persona Sala del Consejo de Educación del Distrito
5:45 pm	Doors Open for Dinner	Puertas abiertas para la cena
6:00-6:05	<b>1. Call to order &amp; Welcome Message</b> , Odilia Gutiérrez / Irlanda Gomez, DEMLAC Co-Presidents	<b>1.Llamada al orden y Bienvenida</b> , Odilia Gutiérrez / Irlanda Gomez, Copresidentas DEMLAC
6:05-6:10	<b>2. Language Access Interpretation &amp; Introductions</b> , Irlanda Gomez, DEMLAC Co-President <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Language Access Interpretation, Sofia Rubalcava, Language Access Unit</li> <li>b. Introduction to Director of Educational Equity &amp; Multilingual Services, Dra. Martinez &amp; Education Services Family Engagement Unit Liaison, Janina Martinez</li> <li>c. DEMLAC Executive Members Welcome               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Odilia Gutiérrez, Co-President / Co-Presidente</li> <li>2. Irlanda Gomez, Co-President / Co-Presidente</li> <li>3. Viridiana Victoria, Secretary / Secretaria</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<b>2. Interpretación de Acceso Lingüístico y Introducciones</b> , Irlanda Gómez, Copresidenta de DEMLAC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Interpretación de Acceso Lingüístico, Sofia Ruvalcaba, Unidad de acceso lingüístico</li> <li>b. Introducción a la Directora de Equidad Educativa y Servicios Multilingües, Dra. Martínez y Enlace de la Unidad de Participación Familiar de Servicios Educativos, Janina Martinez</li> <li>c. Bienvenida de parte de los miembros ejecutivos de DEMLAC               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Odilia Gutiérrez, Copresidenta / Copresidente</li> <li>2. Irlanda Gómez, Copresidenta / Copresidente</li> <li>3. Viridiana Victoria, Secretaria / Secretaria</li> <li>4. Rosy Alcalá, Parlamentaria / Parlamentaria</li> </ul> </li> </ul>



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	<p>4. Rosy Alcalá, Parliamentarian / Parlamentaria</p> <p>d. Special thanks to volunteer advisors to co-presidents</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Marina Zarate</li> <li>• Socorro Ramirez</li> <li>• Margarita Mendoza</li> </ul>	<p>d. Un agradecimiento especial a los asesores voluntarios de los co-presidentes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Marina Zárate</li> <li>• Socorro Ramírez</li> <li>• Margarita Mendoza</li> </ul>
<b>6:10-6:15</b>	<p><b>3. DEMLAC Reps Roll call</b>, Viridiana Victoria, DEMLAC Secretary</p>	<p><b>3. Llamada presencial de Representantes de DEMLAC</b>, Viridiana Victoria, Secretaria de DEMLAC</p>
<b>6:10-6:15</b>	<p><b>4. Review of Norms &amp; Announcement of Public Comment</b>, Rosy Alcalá, DEMLAC Parliamentarian</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How to participate in the meeting</li> <li>2. Making a motion (raise your hand)</li> <li>3. Making comments or asking questions</li> </ol>	<p><b>4. Revisión de normas y anuncio de comentarios públicos</b>, Rosy Alcalá, parlamentaria de DEMLAC</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Cómo participar en la reunión.</li> <li>2. Hacer una moción (levantar la mano)</li> <li>3. Hacer comentarios o hacer preguntas</li> </ol>
<b>6:15-6:20</b>	<p><b>5. Committee Reports</b> Rosy Alcalá, DEMLAC Parliamentarian</p> <p>a. Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC), Frankie Viveros</p>	<p><b>5. Informes del comité</b> Rosy Alcalá, parlamentaria de DEMLAC</p> <p>a. Comité Asesor de Educación Especial (SEAC), Frankie Viveros</p>
<b>6:20-6:30</b>	<p><b>6. Old Business</b>, Viridiana Victoria, DEMLAC Secretary</p> <p>a. <b>Approval of Minutes from: January 25, 2024</b></p>	<p><b>6. Asuntos previos</b>, Viridiana Victoria, Secretaria del DEMLAC</p> <p>a. <b>Aprobación de las actas de: January 25, 2024</b></p>



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<p><b>6:30-7:00</b></p>	<p><b>7. New Business, Odilia Gutierrez, DEMLAC Co-president</b>          Odilia Gutiérrez / Irlanda Gomez, DEMLAC Co-President</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Review of Reclassification Criteria, specific to Basic Skills (Renaissance STAR Assessment Upgrade)</li> <li>b. SBUSD Family &amp; Parent Engagement, Shakenia Edison, Assistant Superintendent of Student Support</li> <li>c. Special Education, Dr. Karla Curry, Director of Special Education</li> </ul>	<p><b>7. Asuntos nuevos, DEMLAC Co-president</b>          Odilia Gutiérrez / Irlanda Gomez, Co-presidentas de DEMLAC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Revisión de los criterios de reclasificación, específicos de las habilidades básicas (actualización de la evaluación Renaissance STAR)</li> <li>b. Participación de familias y padres del SBUSD, Shakenia Edison, Superintendente adjunta de apoyo estudiantil</li> <li>c. Educación Especial, Dra. Karla Curry, Directora de Educación Especial</li> </ul>
<p><b>7:00-7:20</b></p>	<p><b>8. EMLAC Site Reports, Viridiana Victoria, DEMLAC Secretary</b></p>	<p><b>8. Informes de los EMLAC de las escuelas, Viridiana Victoria, DEMLAC Secretary</b></p>
<p><b>7:20-7:25</b></p>	<p><b>9. Public Comments, Rosy Alcala, DEMLAC Parliamentarian</b> (2 min per person). Members of the public may address the committee on any matter on the agenda, or on other subjects within the jurisdiction of the committee. Individuals will normally be limited to a maximum of two minutes each.</p>	<p><b>9. Comentarios públicos, Rosy Alcala, DEMLAC Parliamentarian</b> (2 min por persona). Los miembros del público pueden dirigirse al comité sobre cualquier asunto del orden del día o sobre otros temas de la jurisdicción del comité. Los individuos normalmente estarán limitados a un máximo de dos minutos cada uno.</p>
<p><b>7:25-7:30</b></p>	<p><b>10. Announcements, Odilia Gutiérrez, DEMLAC Co-President</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Next DEMLAC Meeting is March 21, 2024</li> </ul>	<p><b>10. Anuncios, Odilia Gutiérrez, DEMLAC Co-President</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Próxima Reunión DEMLAC es el 23 de marzo del 2024</li> </ul>
<p><b>7:30</b></p>	<p><b>11. Adjournment, Rosy Alcala, DEMLAC Parliamentarian</b></p>	<p><b>11. Clausura, Rosy Alcala, DEMLAC Parliamentarian</b></p>



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## **Minutes**

### **District Emergent Multilingual Learner Advisory Committee (DEMLAC)**

#### **1. Call to order & Welcome Message 6:11pm**

##### **a. Call to order & Welcome Message, Odilia Gutiérrez / Irlanda Gomez, DEMLAC Co-Presidents**

- i. Irlanda welcomes everyone and opens by giving a short message about how one spends time in order to express gratitude for everyone's time and participation.

##### **b. Welcome Message, Odilia Gutiérrez / Irlanda Gomez, DEMLAC Co-Presidents**

- i. Odilia welcomes everyone and explains that Dr. Martinez and Janina Martinez will be providing translation services. The DEMLAC Executives then introduce themselves.

#### **2. Language Access Interpretation & Introductions**

Janina Martinez provides translation for those who required it in English, while Dr. Martinez handles translation for Spanish speakers.

#### **3. Roll Call, Viridiana Victoria**

Viridiana begins roll call for all school DEMLAC reps.

#### **4. Review of Norms & Announcement of Public Comment, Rosy Alcala, DEMLAC Parliamentarian**

Rosy expresses appreciation for everyone's time and participation. She reviews the norms and expectations. Rosy addresses public comments from the previous meeting, discussing events from the three meetings that have occurred since. Irlanda explains that links have been added as previously mentioned because QR codes were not functional. Odilia emphasizes the importance of filling out the public comment card to ensure smooth proceedings.

#### **5. Committee Reports, Rosy Alcala, DEMLAC Parliamentarian**

SEAC presentation was not given but will be given at a later date.



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### **6. Old Business, Viridiana Victoria, DEMLAC Secretary**

Viridiana allocates two minutes for everyone to review the minutes from the January 25th DEMLAC meeting. She asks attendees to raise their hand if they have any changes or corrections.

#### Motion for approval:

First motion - Gisela Morales

Second motion - Odilia Gutierrez

### **7. New Business, Odilia Gutierrez, DEMLAC Co-president** Odilia Gutiérrez / Irlanda Gomez, DEMLAC Co-President

Odilia introduces new business, emphasizing the importance of taking thorough notes and paying close attention to effectively disseminate information to parents and peers.

Dr. Martinez then presents the EML Reclassification criteria and guidance. She checks if everyone is familiar with reclassification and provides a brief explanation of the updates. Dr. Martinez outlines the four criteria: ELPAC PL 4, Performance in basic skills, Academic Evaluation, and Parent/guardian notification and consultation (3 attempts). She explains that the scores are now four digits instead of three, but the test itself remains unchanged.

Furthermore, Dr. Martinez elaborates on the reasons behind this change and the software update on Renaissance, which now includes all tests for younger children. She highlights the improvements in teacher reports, such as enhanced graphics, color coding, and overall presentation.

Irlanda warmly welcomes Shakenya Edison to the meeting.

Shakenya introduces herself and outlines her focus on Family Engagement Efforts. While she can address various topics, her primary focus today is on family engagement. She brings along informational cards for her department and proceeds to explain their focus areas for family engagement. Shakenya emphasizes the district's commitment to the Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS), aiming to benefit all 19 schools rather than just one. They have identified key priorities: providing engagement opportunities, fostering home-school communication, and identifying mutual interests and goals.

The approach is shifting from addressing problems to promoting effective family-school partnerships, supporting student achievement, and enhancing school improvement efforts. Shakenya highlights a brochure detailing leadership opportunities in the district for parents beyond



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traditional events like open houses. Family Engagement Liaisons (FELs) are also mentioned in the brochure to ensure parents have access to them and feel comfortable discussing any thoughts or concerns.

Shakenya introduces an integrated wellness approach focusing on students' physical and emotional health. FELs serve as central points of contact in schools for additional wellness resources. Numerous parent classes are available, with sessions held on the first and third Wednesday of every month, alternating between in-person and Zoom formats (Shakenya clarifies the specific days). Additionally, MESabor dance classes are offered on the last Friday of each month.

Shakenya emphasizes the district's data-driven approach, explaining how they track metrics such as family class attendance and food distributions while actively seeking feedback from parents. She concludes her presentation and opens the floor for questions.

Gisela inquires about how the school decides on workshop topics and who makes those decisions. Shakenya responds, stating that if parents at a school site request specific topics, they can arrange the training. Parents can approach either the Family Engagement Liaison (FEL) or the Principal for this purpose.

Gieslea then asks about direct communication with Franky and whether parents will have access to his contact information through the FEL. Shakenya explains that parents can indeed reach out directly to Franky regarding special education inquiries, as his information is readily available to them. Additionally, Franky will assist parents if their children in special education require tutoring.

Dr. Kurry advises that in case of questions regarding Individualized Education Programs (IEP), individuals should first contact their case manager and request a meeting.

Andrea M raises concerns about event overlap between district-wide and school site events.

Mayra Oseguera inquires if sports are included in the wellness program. Shakenya assures she will provide details on what is offered.

A parent asks if there is a therapist or counselor available at SBCA. They found such support beneficial, especially for their fifth grader who has not reclassified and fell behind due to the pandemic. Shakenya explains that they previously collaborated with Calm but have now hired clinicians specifically for schools. She notes the diversity of personnel available and mentions the provision of 12 free family therapy sessions via Zoom. Additional information brochures are available in the waiting area upstairs.



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Irlanda introduces Dr. Karla Curry to the meeting.

Dr. Karla Curry then introduces herself as the Director of Special Education. In her inaugural year in this role, she expresses inspiration drawn from the DEMLAC Meeting and aims for SEAC to achieve similar levels of engagement. Dr. Curry emphasizes her personal connection to Individualized Education Plans (IEPs) beyond her administrative duties. She notes that there are currently 1,892 students with IEPs.

Moving forward, Dr. Curry proceeds to provide an overview of the SBUSD Special Education Department. She introduces a few key employees from the district office. Additionally, she highlights the California Dashboard for Special Education as a valuable resource for parents, noting its graphical representation of data compared to Data Quest's numerical focus.

Dr. Curry then reviews the Special Education Initiatives for 2023-2024. These include a focus on Quality Instruction, prioritizing the quality of work provided by staff rather than merely the quantity of employees; Individual Education Plan (IEP) Compliance, which involves thorough data analysis; Special Education Student & School Data analysis; and the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC).

Irlanda expresses heartfelt gratitude and appreciation for Shakenya Edison and Dr. Kurry's contributions.

Mayra Oseguera encourages more parents to attend SEAC meetings and spread awareness about this special education committee among other parents.

Andrea M shares a personal hardship to illustrate her initial negative experience with the district. However, she acknowledges the evident improvements and positive changes within the district.

### **8. EMLAC Site Reports, Viridiana Victoria, DEMLAC Secretary**

#### **Elementary:**

- **Adams Elementary School** - Gisela Morales

Gisela did not have dates as it was her first time participating. They recently had a meeting with the assistant principal about ELPAC testing and how parents can help students prepare for the exam.



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- **Cleveland Elementary School** - No Rep.
- **Franklin Elementary School**  
The last meeting was on Feb 8th.
- **Harding University Partnership School** - No Rep.
- **McKinley Elementary School** - Mayra Osequeda  
The next meeting will be March 4th. Super Sabado occurred on February 20th via zoom.
- **Monroe Elementary School** - Andrea Macouzet (Jasmin Neri represented)  
February 21st was literacy night. February 26th was their last meeting. They received 90 responses for the EML Needs Assessment Survey.
- **Roosevelt Elementary School** - No Rep.
- **Santa Barbara Community Academy** -  
February 14th was the last meeting.
- **Washington Elementary School** – Irlanda Gomez  
The last meeting took place on February 28th. The next meeting will be April 10th.
- **Goleta Valley JH**: No Rep.
- **La Colina JH**: No Rep.
- **La Cumbre**: Iliana Orozco  
Last meeting was on February 28th, there were 3 participants. March 21st is the next meeting.
- **SB Junior High**- Isidro Abrego



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They reviewed 4 criteria for reclassification in their last meeting.

- **Dos Pueblos:** Socorro Ramírez  
They have not met since the last meeting but the next meeting will be March 18th.
- **San Marcos:** Iliano Orozco  
February 12th was the last meeting, there were 11 people via zoom. The next meeting will be March 11th.
- **SBHS:** No Rep.

### **9. Public Comments**, Rosy Alcala, DEMLAC Parliamentarian (2 min per person).

Rosy Alcala requests that those who completed a public comment card bring it forward; the cards are then handed to the co-president. As there are no public comments, Odilia explains that the presentations given today have addressed past public comments, as well as the inclusion of links alongside QR codes for invitations.

### **10. Announcements**, Odilia Gutiérrez, DEMLAC Co-President

Odilia explains that the next meeting is March 21st.

### **11. Adjournment**, Rosy Alcala, DEMLAC Parliamentarian

The DEMLAC general meeting adjourned at 8:01 PM.