

**Minutes for DLS Parent Association Meeting
Recording Minutes – Patricia Pon
March 2, 2026**

Spencer Shively, Vice President for Mission and Student Life, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

7:01pm - Opening prayer: Rena Cota

Welcome and Introductions: Spencer Shively, Vice President for Mission and Student Life

15 Minute Speaker: Ms. Cecilia Del Toro, Assistant Director of College Counseling

Mr. Shively introduced Ms. Del Toro, and highlighted her contributions to the College Counseling program.

Ms. De Toro explained her role and the De La Salle College Counseling program structure, including the college advisory course, which is mandatory for your student. The program offers information on college fairs, college rep visits, admission processes, financial aid, and testing. She mentioned the resources available on the college counseling website, Spartan Spotlight, and Schoology for parents and students.

Partnerships and Support for Students

- Ms. Del Toro highlighted the partnerships with the College Essay Guy, College Revolution Prep, and College Money Method.
- The College Essay Guy offers workshops and resources for essay writing and interviews.
- College Revolution Prep provides testing prep for AP, SAT, ACT, and PSAT.
- College Money Method offers presentations on financial aid, FAFSA, and scholarship opportunities.

College Advisory Course and Upcoming Events

- Ms. Del Toro described the college advisory course, which meets with students in the library and covers various topics related to college preparation..
- The program includes sessions for students interested in community college, juniors, and sophomores.
- She explained the process of scheduling college rep visits, and the importance of students attending these sessions.
- Upcoming events include college visits during Spring Break, summer programs, and a WCAC College Fair at Berkeley High School.
- Ms Del Toro encouraged families to support the College T-shirt / Decision Day event on May 1, which celebrates senior students' college choices.

One-on-One Meetings

- Ms Del Toro mentioned that she meets with students one-on-one based on their needs and availability.
- Junior students are prioritized for one-on-one meetings, while sophomores and freshmen can also request appointments.
- The college advisory course serves as another form of one-on-one support for students.

Spartan Updates: Spencer Shively, Vice President of Mission and Student Life

- Wellness Week 2/23-2/27
- Soccer NorCal vs Leigh 3/3
- Basketball vs Modesto Christian 3/4
- Junior Prom 3/7
- Parent EdNight - 5 C's of Everyday Prevention 3/10
- Senior Mother / Son Brunch 3/1
- Reconciliation 3/12
- NHS Make-A-Wish Poker 3/12
- DLS Swim Invite (PD Day) 3/13
- Senior Ball 3/28
- Easter Break 4/1-4/12

President of the Parent Association: Michelle Anderson

Michelle Anderson recognized Patricia Pon with a bouquet in appreciation for her leadership, organization, and dedication in coordinating the Crab Feed. In response, Patricia expressed her gratitude to the team leads and volunteers for their tremendous effort, noting the remarkable level of support this year with the highest number of volunteers to date, as well as everyone's willingness to step in and adapt wherever needed.

Parent Association Board – Chair Reports

Expense Report: Jennifer Accardo, Parent Association Expense Administrator. A reminder to everyone to turn requests for reimbursements with receipts within 30 days of the event.

Volunteer Coordinators: Yesenia Feustel & Lisa Borba - No updates.

Frosh Parent Reps: Janet Wright, Khatera Tamplen, Tanja Fabel, Tavoria Wilson-Morton – Freshman Football was undefeated for the season!

Sophomore Parent Reps: Ariana Marbley, Tara Preston, Jemisse Hurd – No updates.

Junior Parent Reps: Betzy Lesser, Lolo O’Keefe, Winn Acle, Patricia Pon – Betzy and Lolo put together a lovely event for the Senior Mom/Son Brunch. The gifts this year for the moms were little prayer heart-shaped quilted pillows, in addition to the keychain. Also the flowers this year were arranged by a De La Salle mom, and were lovely and easy to setup. In addition, Campus Ministry added something special this year, but we’ll keep that confidential for next year’s brunch.

Senior Parent Reps: Michelle Anderson, Jen Accardo – No updates

Carondelet High School Representative: Gwenn Ertz - Carondelet’s Giving Day is coming up and their goal is to raise \$200,000, and they’re having the girls make phone calls for this fundraising. Carondelet’s Parents Guild also invited the De La Salle Parent Association to have a joint Parent Coffee with them on Friday, March 20th at Koin Coffee in Walnut Creek (Park Shadelands). Cat Arroyo, the varsity water polo head coach at Carondelet High School, was selected as the 2025-2026 Girls Water Polo Coach of the Year for the North Coast Section by the California Coaches Association, and honored for her leadership of the Cougars' water polo program. In addition, Carlos Sumulong, the head wrestling coach at De La Salle, was named the **2026 NCS Boys Wrestling Honor Coach Award** recipient by the CIF North Coast Section.

Hospitality: Winn Acle, Joni Dupont, Jody Muñoz, Patricia Pon, Jill Steele, Jemisse Hurd, Ariana Marbley – The next event is the Freshman Welcome Night, Monday May 4, and the volunteer sign up genius will be sent out soon.

Special Events: Noel Hughes, Angelica Nathan, Patricia Pon, Lolo O’Keefe, Valerie Wright, Shirley Valero, Rena Cota, Anna Febiana – Loaves of Love were delivered in February and was a success with the teachers and staff. For Random Acts of Kindness week, the teachers had a wonderful fiesta lunch with Tacos, and the generosity for the Stock the Teacher’s Lounge activity was much appreciated as well.

Community Outreach: Angelica Nathan, Ariana Marbley, Tara Preston, Jemisse Hurd – No updates.

Crab Feed: Patricia Pon, Betzy Lesser, Tavoria Wilson-Morton – No updates.

Dad’s Club: Alex Esparza, Michael Nathan, David Brumley, Nic Anca, Larry Morton Jr, Jesse Tamplen – No updates.

Miscellaneous: *Auction Dessert Dash* - please sign up if you can as there are 40 desserts needed for the auction night. The auction is on May 2nd.

Parent Association Auction Gift Basket - The auction committee reached out to the PA to ask us to support the auction by providing a gift basket or a getaway or an experience. If you’re willing to share or donate, the PA Board can pull something together from anything that

someone would like to contribute, or whatever folks want to donate. You may get an email from the Board, with a QR code asking for contributions with which the Board will create something for the auction, and share what that is with you all once decided.

Reminders:

- Next PA meeting is Monday, April 13, 2026, with guest speaker Mr. Lopez, Vice President for Athletics.

Closing Prayer: Rena Cota

The meeting was adjourned at 7:53 p.m.