

**District English Learner's Advisory Committee (DELAC) Natomas Unified School District
Meeting Minutes for Thursday, April 22, 2021**

A. Welcome/Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 3:08 pm. Meeting was held virtually via Zoom.

Activity time: theme (Earth Day)- Introduction of parents and staff.

Notified attendees the meeting was being recorded and then Mary Lynch reviewed the DELAC norms.

DELAC NUSD team & meeting roles which consist of Mary Lynch, Megan Kelly, Robert Schopen and Brenda Carvalho. Review of NUSD Vision & Core Beliefs and DELAC five norms reviewed including committing to understanding the purposes between DELAC and ELAC. Attendees were informed that the meeting was being recorded; log-off if they wish to not be videotaped.

DELAC Officers & thank you's:

- Robert Toledo/President
- Constantino Silva/Co-Chair
- Nadia Garcia/Secretary

Roll Call for ELAC and/or DELAC representatives or members was taken for school sites. A new member was welcomed -Ms. Takhar who teaches 2nd grade at American Lakes School and ELPAC Coordinator.

Theme is Earth Day!

- A teacher who attended shared her students making nests for an Earth Day project (Avatars) and the nests go back to the earth when finished!
- Independent Living Skills (ILS) students started their own garden to use produce for future cooking. They are learning to water and care for these plants.

Olivia Brarajas was awarded a certificate for best participation, in February, for Valentines Day theme.

Public Comment:

Roberto Toledo who has two students at Natomas High School commented on the vaccination clinic every Thursday, if we can get the word out to assist with registration and guiding families, especially to our EL parents & families including questions on the website and how to login and get appointments. Gives us a push to help with those who are hesitant and gives us opportunity to help. Tuesdays at 9 am open times for appointments for each Thursday. Also, a Saturday appointment in May, second or third week. It does not have to be a student in Natomas district, can be a child 16 and up or a family member or neighbor, please go ahead and let them know.

Mary will look into how we communicate that out as well.

Every Friday at Joey's Food Locker at NHS, you can swing by between 3 - 5 pm and can provide a box of food sometimes and bags of food to help out families.

A member commented on The Wellness Center and how helpful this tool is. It is located on our district website.

Roberto also attended the new online academy and asked questions and another online presentation will be available. A parent asked to find out more and Roberto said he would add the information in the link on how the classes will be, the school, and registration information.

Another member commented that last Saturday she attended a walk-in vaccine center at Natomas High School in which she noted it was very well organized. Thankful for the great event. Apparently everyone that day was volunteering, a lot of people and a very well organized event. Roberto mentioned that he was a volunteer that day and approximately 3,200 shots were given that day.

B. Activities - Brenda Carvalho and Rob Schopen

Participants played a game called DELAC Jeopardy with five EL related categories to choose from. This game was meant to be a learning opportunity. Teams were noted and the game was played with members.

A member requested spanish translation, our translator was not present at this meeting. At the next meeting, we will ask attendees if they need translation in advance. We just added Language Link via zoom for our next meeting. Also, we added Punjabi to our agendas, normally we will have English, Spanish and Punjabi and soon we will add in Russian. Roberto noted he would translate for members today or members can put questions in chat for this meeting for translation.

Mary noted that she would make sure we had translation at the next meeting.

C. Review Minutes from February DELAC, Public Comment, EL Master Plan Acronym Sheet- Megan Kelley

Prior meeting minutes posted in chat and in agenda. If a request for translation of a specific language is needed, send a chat or email with a language request to Megan Kelly.

A review of the purpose of DELAC & ELAC and the relationship between.

D. Review Needs Assessment Results

As a part of the way we review our overall English Learner program, annually, we assess how we are doing in several different areas through the Annual Needs Assessment Process. A survey was provided a few months ago.

The results from questions on Demographics, Engagement, Feedback/Answers from Meeting, Translation Services, Providing Services for EL Students, Site Communication, Communication, Communication on Issues, Purpose of DELAC, Reclassification, and best timeframe to attend DELAC Meetings.

The survey has shown us to communicate.

E. Civic Engagement Planning Team- Mary Lynch

A talk about becoming civically engaged. Members were asked to get a pencil and paper. The NUSD Board of Trustees took action on Civic Engagement in 2015 with a Resolution no. 15-32

In the Matter of: Civics and Students as Engaged Global Citizens (members reviewed the resolution document).

The Resolution states schools are a critical place for students to develop the civic knowledge, skills and values needed to effectively participate in democracy and research demonstrates the six core activities- known as the Six Proven Practices in Civic Learning- directly improve the quality and effectiveness of civic learning in schools.

The Civic Education Work Team is tasked with creating a proposed plan of equitable engagement opportunities for students in grades Tk - 12 with a focus on curriculum and opportunities linked with the respective grade level curriculum and standards.

Now we are in the core of civic engagement with a work team formed to align some curriculum activities for civic engagement. #1 proposal idea from the team is implementation of the State Seal of Civic Engagement. The team would come up with the criteria.

This is a directive from the Board and not a Senior Project. Civic engagement proposal would include lower grade recognition as well as, Junior year; senior year would receive a cord. A member asked about recognition and the years this includes. Part of the plan would track this information with today's ideas on criteria. A member asked if this is part of the IB program, Mary noting some parallels -would not be repeat assignments, however.

Board presentation on Civic Engagement will be held at the May 12 Board meeting.

Waterfall activity with two questions asked, members were to put answers in the chat box:

1. *What does civic engagement mean to you?*
2. *What is one criteria that you think is important for students to demonstrate that are civically engaged citizens by the time they reach their senior year?*

Mary asked again for any advice from this group on criteria with a parent member comment that this is a great idea especially for kids who try their hardest who academically are not all there or not be into sports, but doing their best at trying to be a role model and a time for them to shine. Another member stated that at NHS the students are beyond nice to the ILS students and the level of bonding and getting involved. Member mention of the reading program and buddy program being highly encouraged with note of mentoring. How this builds the community with positive citizens. We are doing more than the six. Mary noted that we are not universally aligned and that all students must have equitable access, more alignment still needs to be.

F. Review Reclassification Procedures - Brenda Carvalho

Explanation of Reclassification Process was summarized. The state has four different criteria of English Language Proficiency Assessment, Comparison of Performance of Basic Skills, Teacher Evaluation and Parent Input -with scores noted and discussed.

Next month we will show examples of student reclassifications. A member commented that Wonders unit test is not a true measure of our EL kids and what if they don't make it but touched on the teacher evaluation at the end of the day. Brenda noted how students score with Wonders is the overall district scoring and then how EL students score in comparison.

G. CUBE 2021: Review of Interesting Topics at CUBE this year - Rob Schopen, Mary Lynch

California Association of Bilingual Education (CABE) conference is held every year. Mary Lynch attended a breakout session on how to negotiate with a team. Mary noted in the breakout session how most attendees were native Spanish speakers, and she experienced a take away moment of needing translation to join the group and how she wanted access to the information and collaboration and how that was going to be difficult. Also, how important it is to have Equity & Access. An ELAC member followed up with how it was a teaching moment.

Rob also noted a great conference! and training through the state. Even the term EL is changing to Emerging Linguists or bilinguals or Multilingual -not ELs. Asset model thinking, 85% of ELs are born in the US; learning English is Not an intervention - it is an enrichment. Rob again noted other great takeaways and strategies.

Member question at her previous district she was aware of CABE and is it open for the teachers? Mary said, "yes, let your Principal know and put it in their site plan, talk about it at ELAC." A great call out and talk to the Principal. This includes parents too.

Mary asked if anyone brought their needs assessment.

CLOSURE: DELAC Meeting adjourned at 4:36 pm.

Ms. Lynch stated that when we switch back to our evening meetings, in-person, we will be able to provide snacks. A member asked if 'Zoom' would still be available, even with in-person. She expressed the convenience of still providing zoom to families that are unable to attend in the evening or in-person. Mary noted she is still figuring out the best way and would like to have more shorter meetings with fun games to connect and possibly do one in person, one virtual - Mary will connect with the officers to get buyin but still offer it virtually with dial-in to hear the information.

Theme for next meeting: Countries Around the World

Next DELAC meeting: May 26, 2021 3:00-4:30 pm

Next Agenda Topics in May:

- Annual Review of EL Teacher Compliance
- Final LCAP input
- Title III Updates
- Review EL Written notifications to Parents

Adjournment @ 4:33 pm