

DEL MAR UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

District English Learner Advisory Committee (DELAC)

MINUTES

Date: 02/25/2021

Called to Order: 9:00 AM

Location: Virtual Meeting (Zoom)

Adjourned: 9:55 AM

Members Present: Vivian Firestone (Coordinator of Assessment, Data and Integrated Technology), Roser Artigas (Ashley Falls Parent), Heather Shadley Tovar (Del Mar Hills Parent), Patricia Huppert (Ashley Falls Parent), Isabel Guillen (Carmel Del Mar Parent), Victoria Roig (Ocean Air Parent) and Yi Tang (Sycamore Ridge Parent).

Also Present: Molly McGregor (Program Assistant, Instructional Services)

DELAC Members Absent: Maria Shifron (Torrey Hills Parent) and Margarita Pinhas (Sage Canyon Parent)

Summary of Discussion/Action

Welcome

Vivian Firestone welcomed DELAC Committee members.

Approval of Minutes from December 10, 2020

DELAC Committee members reviewed the Meeting Minutes from the December 10, 2020 session.

Yi Tang made a motion to approve the Meeting Minutes. Patricia Huppert seconded the motion to approve the Meeting Minutes. All members voted to approve the Meeting Minutes.

Vivian Firestone reviewed the Agenda for the February 25, 2021 meeting.

ELPAC Assessment Update

Vivian Firestone provided an update on ELPAC Assessments. Del Mar Union School District is currently administering the Summative ELPAC Assessment, an exam given to all students identified as English Learners. Results of the Summative ELPAC help to inform student progress in acquiring English and are typically used in the state accountability system. Conversations at the state level are taking place to determine whether the assessment results should be included in the state accountability system.

Vivian Firestone summarized the Summative ELPAC assessment process. Grades 3 – 6 will take the assessment throughout March and Grades K – 2 will take the assessment throughout May. Assessments will be given in-person and remotely.

School Attendance

Vivian Firestone provided information on Chronic Absenteeism and what the district is doing in response. In California, chronic absenteeism is defined as a student who has been absent 10% or more of the instructional days they are enrolled, regardless of the reason. The California

Dashboard has academic and social-emotional indicators that help measure the performance of school sites and school districts. DMUSD, as of 2017-2018, is at the green level with 4.2% chronic absenteeism in 2017 and 3.9% chronic absenteeism in 2018. In 2017-18, chronic absenteeism amongst English Learners was at 7.5%, but chronic absenteeism amongst the group is trending downward and is in the 'green' or acceptable range.

DMUSD is monitoring absences in 2020-2021, but with more flexibility due to health and safety protocols surrounding COVID-19. If attendance is impacted, then teachers and principals provide support.

Compliance for Teacher Credentialing Requirements

Vivian Firestone provided information on teacher credentialing requirements. In DMUSD, all teachers have to be authorized by the State of California to provide instruction to English Learners. The designation confirms that teachers are able to support English Learners while teaching content in English and are able to help English Learners acquire English.

DMUSD provides teachers with strategies to support English Learners and adopts curriculum to include resources specific to the needs of English Learners.

Annual Language Census

Vivian Firestone provided information about the Annual Language Census, which is a data review that includes data on 1) staff who are appropriately credentialed 2) the number of English Learners 3) reclassification counts and 4) the languages represented in the district.

Vivian shared DMUSD data from the district's 2019-2020 School Accountability Report Card on credentialed teachers, languages in the district, English learners, reclassified students and the reclassification rate. Vivian provided insight and background on the numbers presented.

Vivian shared information on Long Term English Learners, those students who are English Learners for more than six years. In DMUSD, most Long Term English Learners also have special needs. English Learners in DMUSD typically reclassify faster than state averages.

Roundtable

Vivian Firestone asked for questions and comments. No DELAC Committee member asked a question or had a comment.

Vivian shared that the next DELAC Committee Meeting will be a joint session with PTA Presidents' to discuss the LCAP plan.

Meeting Adjournment

Vivian Firestone adjourned the meeting at 9:55 AM.

Parent Input/Comments/Suggestions/Questions

Roser Artigas asked if students take the Summative ELPAC Assessment every year? Vivian Firestone confirmed that students identified as English Learners take the Summative ELPAC Assessment each year, until they are reclassified as English Proficient.

Victoria Roig asked if students reclassified as English Proficient continue to take the Summative ELPAC Assessment. Vivian Firestone confirmed that reclassified students do not continue taking the Summative ELPAC Assessment. Vivian also noted additional criteria for reclassification.

Isabel Guillen asked how many students are taking the Summative ELPAC assessment in-person versus remotely this year. Vivian answered that about 1/3 of English Learners in DMUSD may take the assessment remotely.

Yi Tang asked how students are identified as English Learners. Vivian answered that students are classified based on the Home Language Survey completed by parents and the results of the Initial ELPAC, an assessment used to identify English Learners.

Patricia Huppert asked if absences have increased due to COVID-19. Vivian confirmed that absences have increased largely due to COVID-19 and the health and safety protocols asking students to stay home if symptomatic.

Isabel Guillen asked for clarification on English-Learner specific material. Vivian answered that some materials are specifically for English Learners while other materials in English have supports embedded to help teach the material.

Patricia Huppert asked for clarification on the top 5 languages. Vivian Firestone shared that the top 5 languages are based on total enrollment.

Yi Tang asked for clarification on Reclassification Rates. Vivian clarified the numbers provided. Yi Tang asked about language identification categories. Vivian shared that we have 3 categories – English Learner, Initially Fluent English Proficient and Reclassified English Proficient. Yi Tang asked what information from DELAC to share with school site ELAC meetings. Vivian answered that DELAC members may share any information from DELAC meetings.

Legal Requirements

	DELAC Requirements, Roles, Responsibilities		District Master Plan: program goals	X	Annual Language Census
	Parent Notification and Reclassification Procedures	X	Teacher/Aide Compliance Requirements		District Needs Assessment
	Consolidated Application				

DELAC Meeting Dates

9:00 to 11:00 AM

05/04/2021