

Minutes
Arcohe Union School District
District English Language Advisory Committee Meeting
September 24, 2014

The DELAC meeting began at 7:00 pm, after pizza was served at 6:30 pm. In attendance were Manuel Contreras, Mrs. Contreras, Imelda Venegas, Esteban Venegas, Gregorio Gonzalez, Zenaida Gonzalez, Sonia Reyes, Troy Miller, Jenise Satoshige, Candance Sauter, and Virginia Edwards.

Virginia Edwards was elected to the committee, taking the place of Casey Vanderburg.

After discussion of the duties of the various officers, the following officers were elected for the 2014-2015 school year:

- Sonia Reyes – First chair
- Manuel Contreras – Second Chair
- Virginia Edwards – Secretary

No minutes from the previous meeting were available for approval.

Mr. Miller recapped the purpose of the committee, which is to provide input to the School Board and Site Council on the needs of the English Language Learner community, and to help steer the school towards meeting those needs.

There were discussion of the results of the LCAP recommendations, which were the following:

Enrichment Program, both during the day and after school

Facilities Improvement

Technology

Mr. Contreras asked if there is any data as to the success of the after school tutoring program that was provided last year. Mr. Miller responded that although there is no specific data, research shows that programs such as the one offered result in greater engagement and student progress.

It was discussed that the school will be offering free tutoring through private contractors to 38 children in grades 3-8 who are deemed the neediest, and that this tutoring can be either at the school or in the child's home

Mr. Miller expressed his desire to use the committee to solicit opinions on how to make the school a more welcoming place for ELL families. The following methods were discussed:

- Short introductory assembly for all parents at Open House
- Evening activities that start after 6, and the availability of food at these activities so families have the time to both eat and attend
- Reminders/notes sent home in Spanish and English
- Having other bilingual staff available to translate
- Surveys at evening events and conferences to get specific recommendations for family engagement and support

The DELAC Committee bylaws approved last year were made available.

Mr. Miller presented information about the Title III grant and stated the amount of money allocated goes to offsetting the cost of bilingual assistants. Mr. Contreras asked if there would be money for a summer camp and Mr. Miller said he did not believe so. Mrs. Edwards made a motion to approve the use of the Title III money, Mr. Miller seconded. All were in favor and the motion passed.

It was determined that the committee will meet at 6:30 on the last Wednesday of the month.

The next meeting will be at 6:30 on Wednesday, October 29

Most parents indicated that the best method of communication for them is by phone.