

**District English Learner Advisory Committee (DELAC)  
General Meeting Minutes  
October 4, 2012**

**Executive Board Members Present:**

Chairperson Valentina Hernández, Vice Chairperson Gabriela Contreras-Misirlioglu, Secretary Florentina Martínez Moreno, Parliamentarian Luz Portillo-Corona, ELAC Liaison Yazmín Bozin, ELAC Liaison Olivia Ouchen

**Schools Represented:**

Adams, Alcott, Audubon, Baker, Balboa, Bayview Terrace, Bell, Bethune, Birney, Boone, Burbank, Cabrillo, Carson, Carver, Central, Challenger, Cherokee Point, Chesterton, Chollas-Mead, Clark, Clay, Correia, Crown Point, Dana, DePortola, Doyle, Emerson-Bandini, Encanto, Ericson, Euclid, Farb, Florence, Freese, Fulton, Garfield High, Golden Hill, Grant, Hamilton, Hardy, Hearst, Hoover, Innovation, Jefferson, Johnson, Joyner, Keiller, Kimbrough, Knox, Lafayette, Language Academy, Lee, Lewis, Lincoln, Lindbergh/Schweitzer, Logan, Madison, Mann, Marshall Middle, Marston, Mason, McKinley, Montgomery, Muirlands, Nye, Oak Park, Ocean Beach, Pacific Beach Elementary, Pacific Beach Middle, Paradise Hills, Penn, Pershing, Point Loma, Rodriguez, Roosevelt, Rosa Parks, Ross, Rowan, San Diego High, SCPA, Sequoia, Sherman, Spreckels, Standley, Taft, Tierrasanta, Toler, Twain, University City, Valencia Park, Walker, Wangenheim, Washington, Webster, Zamorano

**District Administrators Present:**

Armando Farias, Baker Principal; Felicia Matthews, Bethune Vice Principal; Celia Ramirez, Chavez Principal; Lali Barhouni, Golden Hill Vice Principal; Marco Drapeau, Pacific Beach Middle Vice Principal; Joan Nelson, Penn Principal; Lillie McMillan, Porter Principal; Minerva Salas, Webster Principal

**Office of Language Acquisition Staff Present:**

Nevada Allen, Bonnie Doherty, Debra Dougherty, Sally Johnson, Veronika Lopez-Mendez, Carol Rothenberg, Kathy Velasco, Mary Waldron,

**Legal Requirement/Training Covered:**

X	District English Learner Master Plan for EL programs/services 10/4/12 Instructional Program Options for English Learners
	Conducting a district-wide needs assessment
	District program, goals, and objectives for programs and services for English Learners
n/a	Development of plan to ensure compliance with applicable teacher requirements
	Annual language census
	Review/comment on district reclassification procedures
	Review written notifications to parents
	Other topics of interest to DELAC and EL parents

**Call to Order**

Chairperson Valentina Hernández called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

**Reading of Minutes**

Minutes of the June 7 General Meeting were approved with a small modification.

**Presentation**

*Mary Waldron, Director, Office of Language Acquisition (OLA)*  
*Sally Johnson and Carol Rothenberg, OLA Resource Teachers*

Ms. Waldron shared with DELAC members her family story of the importance of education as the key to success and opportunity. She explained that, while parents were provided a handout containing the complete district

“*Program Options for English Learners*” PowerPoint presentation, this evening she would focus on the two English programs – Structured English Immersion (SEI) and Mainstream English Cluster (MEC).

The two primary goals for all English Learners (ELs) are: (1) to learn English in a timely manner, and (2) to make timely progress in meeting grade level standards. English Language Development (ELD) is a required subject for all English Learners (ELs).

Ms. Johnson explained that all three of the program options include ELD instruction. During ELD instruction the students are grouped by English proficiency level in order to learn the vocabulary and language structures at their current proficiency level, with the intention of moving them to the next proficiency level. She also noted that the instruction follows a sequence of language skills students must master on their journey to become proficient in English. Ms. Johnson explained that teachers are trained in the essential components of ELD. They understand the importance of explicit language instruction that teaches students “how English works.” They also know to provide multiple opportunities for students to practice the language orally and in writing. Teachers also draw attention to the use of the newly taught language throughout the day, so students begin to use it both academically and socially. In addition, teachers observe students, note how they are using the language, and then make decisions about what needs to be reviewed, and what should be taught next. Ms. Johnson showed a video of an ELD lesson at Alcott Elementary School to demonstrate what an ELD instruction looks like.

Ms. Rothenberg shared a video of a high school ELD lesson at Hoover High School. She highlighted the instructional supports the teacher used in the video to increase student understanding, and the ways in which the teacher incorporated movement and motion into the lesson to keep students engaged.

In the video, the students participated in several collaborative activities, where they practiced using language that later would be incorporated into their writing. Providing time for students to practice the language orally before taking it to writing is essential for EL students. The lesson clearly delineated steps for organizing and writing a persuasive essay. Writing is one of the most difficult subjects for secondary students, so our ELD teachers continue participating in training, and practice what they learn, in order to better serve students’ needs.

Ms. Waldron closed the evening’s presentation with a brief overview of the Biliteracy Program option and the Parent Waiver process – a means for interested parents to apply for Biliteracy instruction. She would like to come back to DELAC another time to share extensively about Biliteracy. It needs a night of its own!

### **DELAC Homework and Announcements**

OLA Resource Teacher Nevada Allen reminded DELAC representatives to report to their ELAC, their principal, and other parents what they learned about the English Learner Instructional Program Options.

Chairperson Valentina Hernandez shared a flyer about an upcoming parent training by *Up for Ed* about understanding school and district budgets.

### **Closure**

The meeting adjourned at 7:56 p.m.