

**District English Learner Advisory Committee (DELAC)
General Meeting Minutes
December 6, 2012**

Executive Board Members Present:

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

Schools Represented:

Adams, Audubon, Baker, Balboa, Bayview Terrace, Bell, Bethune, Birney, Burbank, Carson, Central, Challenger, Chavez, Cherokee Point, Clairemont, Clark, CPMA, Crown Point, Dana, DePortola, Doyle, Emerson-Bandini, Encanto, Euclid, Field, Florence, Foster, Franklin, Freese, Fulton, Gage, Garfield High, Golden Hill, Hamilton, Hardy, Hearst, Henry, Hoover, Ibarra, Innovation, Jefferson, Johnson, Joyner, Juarez, Language Academy, Lee, Lewis, Lincoln, Linda Vista, Lindbergh/Schweitzer, Logan, Madison, Marston, McKinley, Mission Bay, Montgomery, Morse, Muirlands, Normal Heights, Nye, Oak Park, Ocean Beach, Pacific Beach Elementary, Pacific Beach Middle, Paradise Hills, Penn, Perkins, Pershing, Point Loma, Rodriguez, Rolando Park, Rosa Parks, Ross, Sherman, Spreckels, Standley, Toler, University City, Vista Grande, Walker, Washington, Webster, Wegeforth

District Administrators Present:

Cindy Marten, Central Principal; Celia Ramirez, Chavez Principal; Jamie Jorgensen, Hearst Principal; Yesenia Robinson, Field Principal; Deanne Rohde, Lindbergh/Schweitzer Principal

Office of Language Acquisition Staff Present:

Nevada Allen, Debra Dougherty, Roxana Garcia, Veronika Lopez-Mendez, 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 12/6/12 Seal of Biliteracy
	Conducting a district-wide needs assessment
X	District program, goals, and objectives for programs and services for English Learners 11/8/12 Comprehensive Evaluation Process for English Learners (CEP-EL) 12/6/12 Bilingual Brains=Benefits
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
X	Other topics of interest to DELAC and EL parents 11/8/12 Migrant Education Program

Call to Order

Secretary Florentina Martinez called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Vice-Chairperson Gabriela Contreras welcomed parents and staff.

Reading of Minutes

Minutes of the November 8 General Meeting were approved as read.

Presentation: Bilingual Brains = Benefits

Sally Fox, Coordinator, English Learner and Support Services Unit, San Diego County Office of Education

Ms. Fox shared a presentation about the physiological and academic benefits of having a bilingual brain. She then invited participants to the front of the auditorium to participate as students in her “classroom” for a lesson in French. She lectured the class in French about the fable “The Fox and the Crow.” When she questioned students

after the lecture, essentially no one could answer. She then presented the same lesson in French, but this time used drawings, visual aids, sound effects, toys, and supportive language. When students were questioned after the lesson the second time, they were able to answer because they understood what she was presenting! This demonstration lesson highlighted the importance of having teachers provide comprehensible input for students who are learning a new language. Ms. Fox closed by highlighting the importance of maintaining our primary language and learning additional languages.

Presentation: Seal of Biliteracy Updates

Mary Waldron, Director, Office of Language Acquisition

The Seal of Biliteracy is an award granted to high school seniors upon graduation which certifies academic proficiency in English and at least one other language. Qualifying students will have a gold embossed sticker with the Seal of Biliteracy insignia affixed to their diploma. In addition, this special recognition will appear on the students' transcripts. Ms. Waldron shared that almost 500 students received the Seal of Biliteracy on their high school diplomas in our district last year, the first year it was offered. The district is working toward adopting criteria for granting "pathway awards" to younger students to encourage them to begin early in developing proficiency in English and another language. DELAC members were encouraged to share the application for this special award with their school sites to promote awareness of the benefits of being bilingual.

DELAC Homework and Announcements

OLA Resource Teacher Nevada Allen encouraged DELAC representatives to spread the word to parents at their sites, their ELAC, and their principal about the benefits and importance of knowing more than one language and the district requirements for the Seal of Biliteracy.

Closure

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.